50¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Fishing Magazine in the United States!

SEPTEMBER 28th, 1978 ★ Volume 13, Number 39 ★ *13th Year of Publishing* ★ FIFTY-CENTS

030272
E HOOKER
53 LOCUST AVE
ISLIP NY 11751

KING OF THE BOTTOM FISH!

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	5:49	6:03	6:43	7:02	6:34	6:50	7:33	7:44	10:01	10:16	9:10	9:30	5:39	6:00	9/28
FRI.	6:36	6:48	7:24	7:42	7:19	7:32	8:10	8:24	10:36	10:49	9:54	10:13	6:24	6:43	9/29
SAT.	7:17	7:30	8:03	8:19	7:57	8:12	8:47	9:03	11:05	11:15	10:34	10:52	7:07	7:25	9/30
SUN.	7:56	8:07	8:40	8:57	8:33	8:46	9:22	9:41	11:23	11:35	11:11	11:32	7:46	8:05	10/1
MON.	8:32	8:45	9:15	9:33	9:08	9:21	9:57	10:20	11:48	—	11:48	—	8:26	8:44	10/2
TUE.	9:09	9:22	9:52	10:11	9:40	9:57	10:34	10:59	12:06	12:21	12:10	12:27	9:07	9:26	10/3
WED.	9:49	10:02	10:33	10:51	10:18	10:35	11:12	11:41	12:43	12:59	12:50	1:08	9:47	10:08	10/4
THUR.	10:31	10:47	11:14	11:33	10:58	11:22	11:54	—	1:24	1:42	1:32	1:50	10:32	10:53	10/5

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	+0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

10/3	6:59	6:39
10/8	7:04	6:30
10/13	7:10	6:22
10/18	7:16	6:14
10/23	7:21	6:07
10/28	7:27	6:00

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
10/2	10/9	10/16	10/24

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	2:15	8:45	2:40	9:05
Fri.	2:55	9:25	3:20	9:50
Sat.	3:35	10:05	4:05	10:30
Sun.	4:15	10:50	4:45	11:10
Mon.	5:00	11:30	5:25	11:55
Tues.	5:40	—	6:10	12:25
Wed.	6:35	12:45	7:00	1:20
Thurs.	7:35	1:45	7:55	2:15

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 13, NO. 39 SEPTEMBER 28, 1978

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COMING NEXT WEEK:

FALL BLACKS

About the Cover—

Large "humpbacked" porgies such as these are probably the most underfished species in our waters because so few fishermen know about them. Read the article *"King of the Bottom Fish,"* on page 10 of this issue.

Richard Reina PUBLISHER

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Dr. Wm. A. Muller EDITOR

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge St., P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Telephone: (516) 725-4200. Second Class Postage is paid at Sag Harbor, N.Y. 9.50 cents per copy, back issues 9.65 per copy. *Subscriptions:* One-Year, 50 Issues—$11; Two-Years, 100 Issues—$19; Three-Years, 150 Issues—$27. Photographs and written contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All consideration will be given these requests; however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new addresses. Please allow two weeks for the address change to be made.

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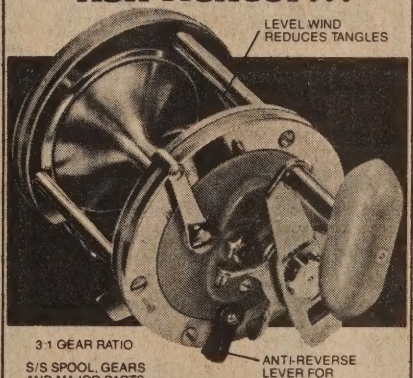

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Pass It On...

SUZUKI OUTBOARDS INTRODUCED IN EASTERN MARINE MARKET

In the latest leg of its national expansion program, Suzuki International has appointed two District Sales Managers and begun marketing its line of high performance two-stroke outboard motors in the eastern marine states, according to Terry Seibert, National Sales Manager.

Seibert announced the appointment of Carter King as District Sales Manager for the Carolinas and Tennessee; while Duane Pascal will coordinate sales and marketing activities for the States of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

"The response from our new Eastern dealer network has been highly favorable, and we expect to continue the momentum with a major thrust into the Great Lakes region early in 1979. Suzuki's reputation for performance and reliability, coupled with our excellent warranty and dealer support programs, assures us a solid share of the outboard market in these key marine states," said Seibert.

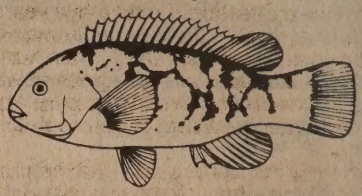
Based in Santa Fe Springs, California, Suzuki International is the exclusive U.S. importer and distributor for Suzuki outboard motors. When the line was first introduced in the United States three years ago, Suzuki's primary market consisted of the thirteen western states. Currently, the company is implementing a full-scale roll-out to introduce the line—market-by-market—via a network of professional marine dealerships.

In addition, Suzuki has established an outboard motor warehouse in Jacksonville, Florida, to better service its new dealer network in the East and Southeast. The warehouse will open in September, 1978, Seibert said.

Important Meeting Notice:

PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON COUNCIL MAKEREL PLAN

The Mackerel Fishery Management plan, along with plans for squid and butterfish, will be discussed at a public hearing to beheld by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council at the Holiday Inn, Route 347, Centereach on September 27, at 7:00 PM. The plan calls for the licensing of charter and open boats that fish for mackerel, similar to the present set-up for catching codfish. If you can't attend the hearing, but still wish to comment, send your written statement to Mr. John C. Bryson, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115, Federal Building, North and New Streets, Dover, Delaware 19901. Deadline is October 16 for the mackerel and squid plans and October 23 for the butterfish plan.



CHUM LINES

SICK BASS REPORTS

Reading the Montauk reports in the August 24 L.I.F., is enough to make a sport fisherman sick. Just reading about those reports of leap jobs on 30, 40 and 50 pound bass shows what hypocrites we can be if given a chance.

We know there hasn't been a decent spawning year since 1970. We know that there consequently is only a fixed amount of those "cow bass" out there. With this in mind, we still boast of those fantastic catches. What the hell does someone do with more than one 50 pound bass? Over thirty inches they start to get as tough as an inner tube. Is it worth killing a 50 pound bass for some lousy cat food thereby gone the potential of those tens of millions of eggs?

How can we editorialize about our Governor's indifference to the striped bass problem, Jacques Cousteau's labeling of sport fishermen as ..., and industry's disregard for our striper spawning grounds when on the next page we detail the massacre of perhaps a thousand of those endangered bass?

Last year in **Salt Water Sportsman**, Frank Daignault, perhaps Cape Cod's finest fishermen, wrote an article describing just such a leap job on 40 and 50 pound bass. I remember the feeling I had reading that article. You fellows brought that feeling back again.

I don't know if you have the courage to print this, but I'd sure like an answer from one of those SPORT FISHERMEN who managed to hook a thousand pounds of bass at the point that day. **Ira Feldman, Bklyn., New York.**

CAN THE EYES OF FLOUNDERS MOVE?

I am a so-so fisherman. I love to fish but I just don't have the time or a boat to go as much as I would like.

I have been getting the L.I.F. for almost a year. Before that, I would read a friend's magazine, but decided

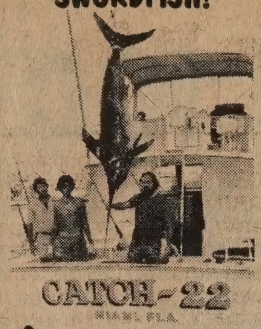
to get my own. I have gained a lot of information and tips on fishing. In fact, I use the L.I.F. as a directory. When I find an item that is of interest to me, I write in a book the heading month and day. When I want to look something up, I know which issue to get. It saves a lot of time and going through each book.

I have a question: I read a few years ago in a book that young flounders swim like other fish. They then turn on their side and one eye goes down and up the other side so both eyes are on the top side. What is your opinion on that?

Thanks for some good and helpful fishing know-how. **George Copeland, Rye, NY.**

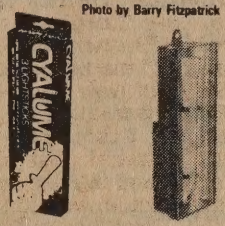
The complexities of the ecological relationships that exist in the sea are often so intricate that terrestrial humans, like ourselves, cannot grasp the significance. Two hundred years ago, we called them the mysteries of the sea and people were afraid to go beyond the horizon, fearful that they would either fall off the end of the earth or be swallowed up by horrible sea monsters. Today, we know that everything has an explanation. Okay, smart ...guy, then why are flatfish flat? it is very difficult to come up with an explanation that is without some doubt at this time. However, one can hypothesize good and sound reasons. There are, as we know, a great variety of inshore predatory fish. Some feed on the bottom, some feed on the top, and some feed in the middle. All these species avoid competition [direct and uncompromising] with other predators by uniquely adapting to some special ability. Thus, a bass may linger into December, long after blues and weaks have fled, and cod can forage in extremely deep water, etc. These unique adaptations usually go unnoticed because the anatomy of these fish is traditional. The flat-shaped flounders are an unexpected development. However, their flat shape allows them to feed in areas where the more conspicuous game fish cannot because they cannot hug the bottom. Their flat shape allows them to move in a heavy current with less drag [they often seem to squeeze under the current], and they can ambush prey from the bottom, thus saving energy and, therefore, they require less food. Young flatfish, however, are very normal. They look like, and swim like other fish. This is because most young fish swim about near the surface where they can feed on abundant plankton. When the flatfish grow up a little [size varies with species, but still very small] the eyes begin to migrate either to the left in some species like fluke, or to the right in some species like the winter flounder. The skull actually twists too and the mouth may move upward. The parts that move under the animal lose pigment and the parts that are on top retain pigment. The result is a miniature flatfish. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

SWORDFISH!



Capt. Charlie Kluck of "Catch 22" Miami, Fla., uses Cyalume Lite-Lures—which caught this 221-lb. broadbill swordfish!

Photo by Barry Fitzpatrick



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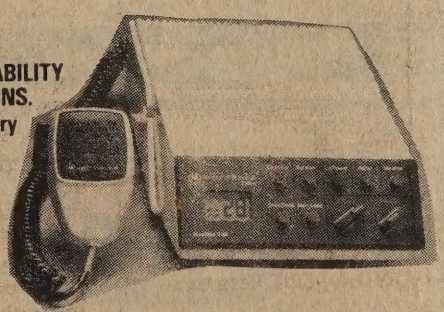

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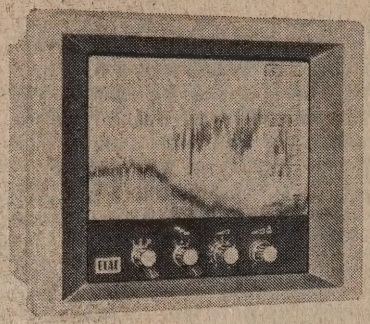

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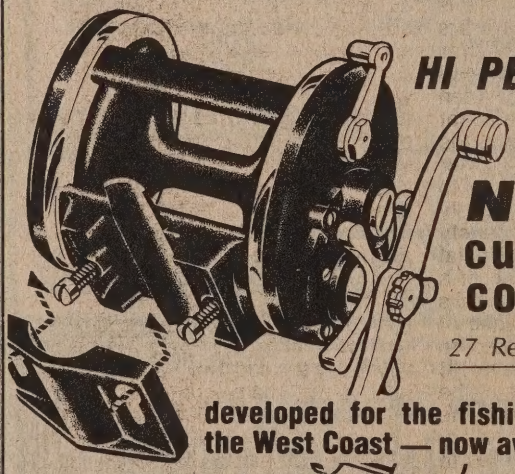

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CLUB NEWS

HIGH HILL STRIPER CLUB AUGUST STANDINGS

August contest Winners
1—Paul Reynolds, weakfish, 9.5
2—C. Sommerlatte, bluefish, 13.8
3—Paul Reynolds, weakfish, 8.13

Club Points
Bob Krauss—1119
Paul Reynolds—969
Bill Muller—838
Fred Schwab—554
Frank Arendt—410

Bluefish Points
Frank Arendt—86
Fred Schwab—58
Bill Muller—28
Paul Reynolds—24
Bill Cantley—24

Striped Bass Points
Bob Krauss—378
Bill Muller—240
Fred Schwab—162
George Schu—78
Skip DiBari—48

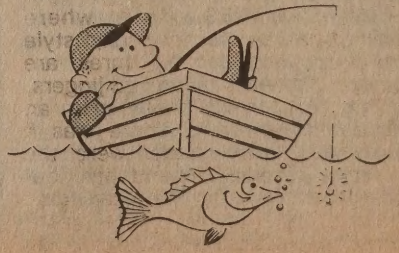
Release Points
Bob Krauss—1594
Bill Muller—1191
Fred Schwab—783
Skip DiBari—120
Dave Karikas—60

Weakfish Points
Paul Reynolds—610
Bob Krauss—376
Bill Muller—370
Frank Arendt—284
Fred Schwab—184

Junior Division
Bass—John Kelly, 15.10
Weakfish—John Kelly, 7.12
Bluefish—Bill Bomba, Jr., 9.8

Biggest of Species
Bass—Bob Krauss, 25.9
Weakfish—Claude Sommerlatte, 12.2
Bluefish—Claude Sommerlatte, 13.8

Once again in August, High Hill Striper competitors released most of the point fish taken. In all, 72% of the eligible fish taken in August were carefully released and that includes about one dozen bass in the twenty pound class. The Club has accepted a few new members this year, but the Board of Directors has approved a few new openings. If you are interested in joining a serious, hard-fishing, conservation minded surf fishing club, call Dr. Bill Muller between 10 AM and 3 PM at (516) 686-7622.



FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

A "DIP" IN THE MAILBOX

WHAT SIZE HOOKS? Reader Joseph Daly of New Hyde Park wrote: "Is there a hard and fast rule as to size and style of single hooks to replace treble hooks on tins and/or plugs?" Simple answers are, unfortunately, hard to come by. Fishing is loaded down with rules from a mythical book. It is kind of like the baseball manager's "book." It isn't written down and bound like the Bible, but it is an accumulation of recommended procedures that help fishermen to catch fish more consistently. In short, the book is a summary of playing the percentages; but rules are meant to be broken and nowhere is this more true than in saltwater fishing. Ever hear the rule about using tins in the day and plugs at night, or the one that says use black plugs on dark nights and bright ones on bright nights. By and large these are good suggestions, but just when all seems right with the world, the fish will eat only shiny chrome plugs on a night that's so black you have trouble seeing your hand in front of you. The tin plug rule is also a good one, but there are times when tins work at night. Okay, all of this is a prelude to saying that they are good approximations of "rules," but they are not hard and fast. Most experienced fishermen who routinely replace treble hooks on plugs and tins, will replace them with siwash or salmon hooks. These are hooks with a straight bend so that the hook takes on the shape of a U when it is forged. Siwash hooks have good penetrating power and hold fish well. However, siwash hooks tend to seem smaller—size for size—when compared with other hooks. I say "seem" smaller because hook sizes depend upon the size of the gap, or the distance between the shaft and the point. Since siwash hooks are straight bends, the gap is proportionately bigger and the hook seems smaller. Large plugs, such as bottle plugs and darters will require an 8/0 or 9/0 hook, although some regulars may use hooks that are either smaller or larger. Rebel and RedFin plugs are not usually altered. I hedge these comments because these are what is generally done because experience has taught fishermen that following these parameters will be consistently productive.

METAL LURES. Now, where siwash hooks are the preferred style for plugs, some metal lures are adapted differently. Diamond jiggers, for example, traditionally use an O'Shaughnessy hook. There was a time when treble hooks were the standard fare on diamond jigs, but fish—especially big fish—can gain leverage against a treble hook. Sometimes, a big fish may dig to the bottom and catch one or two of the points of a treble hook on bottom debris and thus gain freedom; however, the treble itself, even in mid-water column, can be used by the fish to defeat the angler. Trebles are not attached via a swivel, and thus a fish can twist and when the hook is turned so that it cannot turn anymore, the fish can then tear free of the hook. Tins that are cast rather than jigged are another matter. You'll find both siwash and other styles used here, although many fishermen prefer the siwash. I routinely change all tins to a single siwash. I use a 6/0 siwash for small tins of about one ounce and 8/0 for the bigger tins. I do not replace trebles on tins that weigh less than one ounce.

MR. DALY CONTINUES! "Is it advisable to replace treble hooks on plugs and tins?" That question has already been answered in the previous paragraph, but there is another dimension to the question. Tackle is designed and built by manufacturers to perform in service. Saltwater products are made with the idea in mind that a thirty pound bass or a ten pound bluefish may be the fish that decides to eat that lure. However, the fishing habits of fishermen differ tremendously and it is impossible to design a lure for all situations. Simply making a lure bigger does not satisfy all of the requirements of an artificial that has the size to catch big fish. If a fisherman generally fishes for weaks and school bass, as well as blues of less than eight pounds, the need to modify tackle is minimal. However, if a fisherman habitually seeks out the monsters that the sea has to offer, he or she will discover that almost every tackle item will have to be modified to one extent or the other. Sometimes, it simply means changing a hook or replacing corrosive hardware with stronger non-corrosive metal parts. However, there are some reels that will virtually have to be re-made from the housing out and parts will often have to be specially machined to fit. Here is where hard and fast rules melt away quickly. The trophy hunter may find himself replacing screw eyes with through-wire if a specific plug is poorly made for his purposes, but catches fish. Teflon is the order of the day for reels that will catch many big fish, but most reel manufacturers refuse to offer reels with Teflon washers. (Penn is the exception.) You will find that much of the tackle that is available in this country is, or was, designed for freshwater. The reason is simple: there are more fresh water fishermen and they spend more money than salty types. Thus, saltwater fishermen must usually modify and adjust at least some of their tackle.

WILL THE REAL MACKEREL PLEASE STAND UP? Paul Annitto writes: "Today I was fishing a western Long Island Sound bay and accidentally hooked a small Boston mackerel. While looking at it on the dock, a man came by and called it a tinker mackerel. Was the man correct calling the small mackerel a tinker mackerel. I always thought that the tinker mackerel was an entirely different species." The man was correct in calling this fish a "tinker" mackerel. It is a nickname for small Atlantic or Boston mackerel in much the same way that we call baby bluefish "snappers." This year was apparently an outstanding spawning year for mackerel. Ripe fish were caught in virtually every bay and sound around Long Island this year and by August, the young fish were large enough to compete with snappers for the available small bait such as sand eels and spearing. In turn, the macks provide great forage for blues and weaks and there have been several blitzes during the summer in which the macks were the primary target of bigger predators. There was a great run of big weaks around the south shore bridges and a similar run of good fishing for blues up in Long Island Sound. We can only look forward to the fall when the baby macks should provide hot action everywhere.

DID I CATCH A CONGER EEL? Ken House of Bellmore recently wrote: "While I was fishing at Montauk for cod two years ago on a head boat, many customers, myself included, hauled in a fish called a "congo" eel. I vaguely remember that this fish had a very large mouth, tremendous flexibility and was slimy as all hell. My books and keys list a congo and a conger eel (**Cryptacanthodes maculatus** and **Conger oceanicus,** respectively), but these fish look more "eel-like" than the 'congo' eel we hauled aboard that day." There is a group of fishes called conger eels. There are nine species that inhabit waters off the North American coast. You are correct; they are very eel-like and in fact, when they are caught they are often mistaken for the American eel. They grow to a length of seven feet and a weight of about twenty pounds. Since I wasn't there, it is impossible to say what you caught. However, it is far more common to catch eel pouts then conger eels. Local fishermen frequently call the eel pouts conger eels, however. The eel pouts belong to the family of fishes called **Zorcidae** and they are similar to the wolffish. The eel pouts are long and relatively thin and therefore are

(Continued on page 35.)

Class will now come to order. What is the difference between fall flounder and spring flounder? What? It certainly is not a foolish question; so you hysterical fellows in the first row, knock it off. And don't be so smug! If you have nothing better to do, go unravel those bird's nests you left in your reels last weekend. But let's be serious for a minute. There really is a difference between these flounders. Sure, those fellows who have been around will tell you fall flounder and spring flounder are one and the same; that the names are given only to distinguish according to the seasonal availability of the fish—and they are right. But what many fishermen overlook is the fact that the average fall flounder is larger than the average spring flounder; and that's the difference I mean. You will catch few throw-backs at this time of year. In fact, as the water becomes cooler, the run of flounder becomes larger. I don't know if you've ever caught flounder in January (when they then become known as winter flounder by fishermen), but I have during mild winters, and it is rare when fishermen land anything less than one pound, with two pounders quite common. Where do these fish go in spring when the water warms and just about everybody and his brother are out after them? I don't know, and I wish I did. But now the opportunity is at hand to get out there and nail some of these better than average fish.

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

FALL FLOUNDER

The flounder is sporty and full of spunk. I know it will never break any big-fish records, but neither will it hesitate to take on a big guy like you and give it its best shot—providing you are fishing in the right place with the right bait. But willing as a flounder may be to pour on the steam and show what it can do, you'll never be aware of this ability if you don't use the tackle needed to reveal this little scrapper at its best.

Spinning tackle is used for many fish, even some for which it isn't intended, but when the fisherman decides to use spinning stuff for flounder, he just cannot go wrong. It seems to me that spinning tackle and flounder were made for each other. Over the years when flounder fishing, I've used just about any tackle you can name, some with the resiliency of a two-by-four, and thought always that I was having fun. But when spinning tackle came on the scene, it was only then that my eyes were opened to what I was missing and truly enjoyed myself with the flatties. There is just nothing like it for flounder fun.

There is spinning tackle, and there is spinning tackle, world without end. Which is for you when flounder fishing? I cannot answer this precisely, for I don't know where you intend to fish. I will say this, though: if you can use one and two ounce bank sinkers in your area, then by all means go for the light stuff. If, however, you know that you must use sinkers from three to four ounces, it is advisable to then use medium-weight tackle.

Should you find your selected spot requires over four ounces of lead to hold bottom, it is my feeling that you are not fishing in the right place; and even if you use codfishing tackle, you won't attain much success. Flounder fishing is always best where currents move, but are not excessively strong. Unless you are a fisherman with much experience, I think it prudent to hunt up some back-bay area or creek and do your fishing there.

To take full advantage when using light sinkers, fill your reel with six or eight pound test mono. These gossamer strands will enable you to feel the slightest touch of any prowling flounder. The instant a flattie nudges your bait (I almost used the word breath, so sensitive is this combination to the lightest touch), the detection and responsiveness is immediately telegraphed to your rod. The only thing you must remember then is not to rear back on the fish with that violent, unrestrained yank so many fishermen employ. You will only aid that flounder in stealing your bait.

This is a good place to bring up another difference between spring and fall flounder. During spring, especially in the beginning when the water is cold, the fish are sluggish in their approach to bait. Quite often these flounder will have hooked themselves without the fisherman's knowledge. Because the hook has been swallowed anyway, it is then when these violent reactions work; but it is uncalled for even then, and there is never justification for such an undisciplined act when flounder fishing. But in the fall, flounder are extremely agile until the water becomes really cold. They do not toy with the bait but nip at it and go. Therefore, you'll find heavy-handed methods at this time are particularly bad. All that is necessary to sink the hook is a short, smart lift of the rod tip.

Hooks are no problem. It is most important to remember that those hooks must always be on bottom. Flounder will not swim off bottom more than an inch or two. Yes, I know, you've met other fishermen who have taken flounder as much as a foot off bottom. I have too, and have done it myself under certain conditions and when definite fishing methods were employed, but limited space does not allow me to go into the finer details of this offbeat technique.

You will find that this unconventional fishing is done by crackerjack anglers who know the ins and outs of flounder fishing as few others do. I know one fellow who specializes in triple-headers. Nor is he a fish hog for most of these fish are returned. In fact, one day I watched him nail thirteen triple-headers in a row in Shinnecock Canal before he halted this wonderous feat with a double. So you see, there are certainly offbeat methods superb flounder fishermen use, but you can never go wrong if you make a point to rig so that you bait is always on bottom. The weird stuff comes later—much later.

To make sure those hooks are on bottom is simplicity itself. Take two flounder hooks (Chestertown, number nines) and fold the snell of one at its middle. Then pass this fold through the knotted loop of the second hook. Finally, run the latter hook through the fold of the first, pull tightly, and secure with an overhand knot. (Important!) Takes but seconds and will give you what is known as a tandem or Canarsie rig. Practice several times until it becomes second nature.

Place this rig about two inches above the sinker with a double-overhand loop. There is another way you can put the rig on instead of tying directly to the main line, but for fall flounder fishing, I don't recommend it. It is best used in spring when, as noted, the fish are more sluggish and a high degree of sensitivity is not needed to detect a rapidly biting flounder. But if you wish to try it, simply put the sinker on with a sinker-snap and add the rig to it. You'll lose some of that sensitivity I feel is important, but if you do much casting and are having difficulty with hooks fouling about the main line, this method will prevent its happening. I leave the choice to you.

Bait is a whole new ball game. Its problems are not so easily solved as rigging. Much has been written about it and with good reason. I'll tell you right now that just because flounder went berserk over bloodworm today is no reason that they will be beside themselves over it tomorrow. Just about every flounder fisherman who has been at the game long enough will agree with that.

I'm sure you've heard that bloodworms are best along the south shore, and that sandworm does the trick on the north shore. This seems to be right—up to a point. I wish I had a buck for every time Freddie Flounder decided to change his mind in this respect. The best bit of advice I can give you is to bring along some of each and let the fish do the deciding.

In the beginning of the fall season and until the water becomes definitely cold, you'll find worms will produce most times. But the day you discover the water has taken on a biting chill (usually sometime in mid-November), put your faith in clam. These can be soft clam necks (steamers), hard clam (chowders), and skimmer (fresh preferred). Incidentally, those large January flounder I mentioned earlier were always caught on fresh skimmer.

Average-sized south shore fall flounder.

Worm of any kind drew a resounding zilch.

When using bait, always make sure it is at least one-and-a-half inches in length. This goes for clam as well as worm. Don't worry about that small mouth. Flounder suck the bait in most times and even a small fish can handle baits this size. Put no faith in what you've been told about using small baits, unless your wish is to catch small fish. And I don't believe that. Just make sure that when you use clam it is sliced into narrow, thin lengths, something approaching the width of a bloodworm being ideal.

To chum or not to chum? As Willie Shakespeare said: that is the question. There can be no doubt that chumming produces fish, but in this instance, perhaps all that glitters is not gold. I don't recommend it at this time of year unless you are desirous of relieving yourself of all that expensive bait. Until water temperatures drop you'll find flounder sharing their newly-staked home with infant blowfish, sea robins, weakfish, porgies, and bergalls. These will go through your bait in nothing flat if you coax them around. If chum you must, then wait at least until the third week of October. Most of those tiny bait-stealers will have left for greener pastures by then.

Chum can consist of practically anything. Crushed bank mussel, bits of clam, broken shells, rice, and corn are all good; even driveway-pebbles and beach sand have been known to draw the inquisitive flounder. But because fall flounder are active, I believe it best if chumming is left till spring, where it will then work wonders enticing sluggish flounder to the baited hooks.

Whether you intend to fish from shore or a boat, it is best to look for the deepest water in the area. This should be no less than fifteen feet. Fishing shallow water just now will avail you naught. The water is still warm and flounder need coolish temperatures for survival. They won't find this on those shallow flats notorious for producing spring flounder, fish which in spring are there only for the sole purpose of seeking warmer water as opposed to the cold of winter's chill.

Let us hope that this fall will produce enough flounder to satisfy all fishermen. Some years are better than others. But whether you catch a dozen or fifty, I know you will have a good time doing it. I've been chasing fall flounder for more years than I care to remember, but I've never lost my enthusiasm for one more try. Nor will I ever lose it. Of that, I'm certain.

Surf Side: OCTOBER PROSPECTS

(Continued from page 13.)

loss of your terminal gear should you snag the bottom. The preferred bait for the larger fish at this time of year is green crab. A tip from my good buddy, Steve Petri, is as follows: break off the claws and legs where they joing the body. Then peel off the top shell and the hard flap on the underside which designates the sex. Break the crab in half and insert the hook into one of the leg sockets. As a final step, make a few wraps with a rubber band around the crab to bind it more securely to the hook, thus making it harder for the fish to take the crab without the hook.

The fishing possibilities this month are limited only by the amount of effort one puts into the sport. From rampaging bluefish schools swarming in on the beaches under a howling nor'easter to the low hum of a loosened drag as some unseen monster cautiously picks up an eel in the inky blackness of an overcast night, all the diversified tastes of the surf fishing clan can be satisfied this month. The biting winds and lashing spray will chill the body, but only until that first hit when all discomfort is forgotten. There is sufficient time in the long winter ahead in which to warm your bones before a blazing fire in the comfort of your den.

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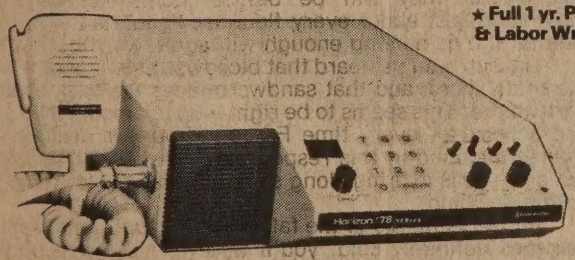

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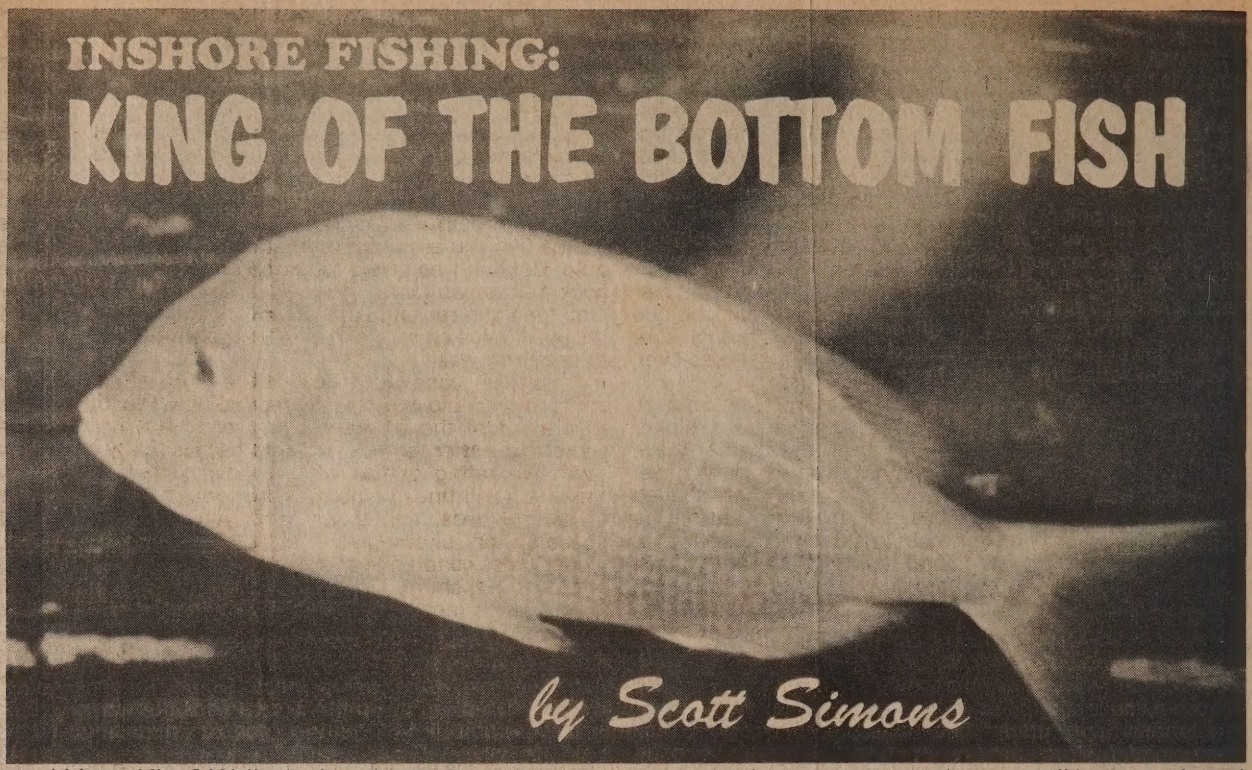
INSHORE FISHING:
KING OF THE BOTTOM FISH



by Scott Simons

Did I say King? Well, much as I hate to admit it, that honor would have to go to the blackfish. But the porgy easily earns the title of Prince of the bottom fish in any case. I have always had a special fondness for the porgy, having been undeniably influenced by the fact that I was given the opportunity quite often as a youngster to catch them. I can still remember the times almost twenty-five years ago when my father would take me to Freeport's famous Woodcleft Canal and we'd sail on one of Captain Carl Forsberg's first Vikings—forerunners of today's famous Viking Fishing Fleet. In those days, the waters of the New York Bight were still excellent porgy grounds. (Fortunately, after a long drought, there are now signs that the porgy and sea bass may be returning to the area in numbers.) We would also make the long trek to Montauk on occasion, then and still the Porgy Capital of the World, and fish aboard Captain Bob Yuhl's open boat "REX."

At the time, I thought in my youthful innocence that I was the greatest porgy fisherman that the world had ever seen. This belief was largely based on the fact that I thought I had discovered the "secret" technique for catching them: I'd just let my line down to the bottom, count to ten and reel in my double-header! It wasn't until years later that I found out that most of the fishermen aboard were only counting to five, and outfishing me two to one...

My fondness for porgy fishing is common knowledge and has always been a subject joked about in the offices of **The Fisherman Group.** Doc Muller from L.I., Tim Coleman from our Connecticut office, and Pete Barrett at our New Jersey office, are all died-in-the-wool surfcasters; so whenever they would start telling their "bass in the wash" stories for the umpteenth time I'd start talking about porgies. I always said that the hardest fighting fish is a ten pound porgy, only they don't make them in that size. Recently I was invited to spend a week in the Madeira Islands, A Portugese Colony located off Africa, to fish for blue marlin and giant tuna (which will be the subject of a future article this winter). Before I left, Timmy made a comment about how he was sure I'd manage to find porgies halfway around the world...and he was right! Although I didn't get the chance to fish for them, one morning we were visiting the local marketplace in the fishing village of Machico where the local dorymen bring in their catches to sell. Wouldn't you know it-one of the large tables had a big pile of fish that were almost identical to our own local porgy...only they were all between six and eight pounds! So maybe the ten-pound porgy isn't only just a dream after all. The fish I saw were being marketed under the name of "porgos", so even the names were similar.

My stories of porgy fishing as a youth aside, they really aren't all that easy to catch. While at times the porgy will virtually commit suicide on your hook, more often than not they will be very "picky" and quite difficult to hook. This became apparent to me one day this summer, when I had friends Artie and Kenny aboard. Both are better than average fishermen, and we had anchored up on a good piece of bottom around Great Eastern off Montauk. The fishing was hot and heavy and I was bringing in a fish almost every time down, and assumed they were bailing the fish too because they were constantly busy baiting up, reeling in and cursing. We only got in about an hour of good fishing before the current started to "float" our heavy sinkers, but I couldn't believe it when a count of the contents of the fish box only yielded 39 porgies! As good a fishermen that they were, they just hadn't gotten the knack of porgy fishing when they are tough.

The secret of scoring when the porgies, or any other bottom fish for that matter, are fussy is the "slow lift". This is a subject that could take up an entire article, so I'll just give you the basic idea. When the fish are being cute, they will make short sneak attacks on your bait that either make it difficult to feel them biting or, if you can feel them, almost impossible to hook them. Sometimes they will just swim up to the bait and kind of suck on it–as a result you never feel a thing as they strip your hooks clean. At other times they will just run up to the bait and take a few rapid pecks at it. By the time the message is conveyed through stretch in your monofilament line, the fish doesn't even have the bait in his mouth anymore! So no matter how quickly you try to set the hook you only end up swinging your rod in the air, which can be very frustrating to say the least-not to mention ego deflating.

The next time you find yourself being outwitted by porgies in this manner, try using the "Slow Lift". As you lower your rig to the bottom, keep your rod tip low to the water and point it in the same direction as the line. When you feel the sinker bump bottom, lock the spool and then **slowly** begin to raise the tip of your rod until the rig is about three feet off the bottom, pause, then lower the rig back to the bottom and repeat the slow lift after letting the

sinker rest for about ten seconds. If the fish try sucking on the bait, you will pull it away from them and they will be forced to take it more forcefully. If they try pecking at the moving target the porgies won't be too successful and begin to get careless. When you feel these small pecks, DO NOT try to set the hook--keep raising the rod tip, pulling the bait away from them. This will make them pounce on the bait instead of picking at it. Don't try setting the hook until you not only feel the sharp bites but actually can feel the weight of the fish in the bend of the rod—this means that the fish probably has the bait in his mouth, along with your hook. It takes a little while to get the knack of this slow lifting, and I know fishermen that have never been able to get it quite right. But mastering the technique is more than worth the effort, because it doesn't only work for finicky porgies. It works equally well, sometimes even better, for flounder, fluke, cod and blackfish.

Terminal tackle for porgy fishing should be kept as simple as possible, without a lot of colored balloons, sinker clips, red beads and chains, and the remarkable assortment of line-holder-outers that I see fishermen use. All you need for a porgy rig is a leader, two short snelled hooks (eight to twelve inches) and a barrel swivel to prevent line twist. Tie your main line and the three feet of leader material (30 or 40 pound test) together with clinch knots. Then tie an end loop for your sinker to the end of the leader material. Attach the bottom hook to the leader by tying a dropper loop in it about six inches above the sinker. The second or top hook should be tied a snell's length above the first to prevent it from tangling. That's it! Your best bet is to use a bank sinker, which is less prone to get hung up on the rough bottom compositions often fished over for porgies.

For hooks, I'm a strong believer in small hooks and patterns to match the shape of the fish's mouth. In the case of the porgy, I don't see any reason to use a hook larger than a 1/0. To accommodate the small mouth of the porgy, I prefer the beak pattern—but it seems most of the porgy sharpies lean towards the sproat pattern, so I'm probably wrong in this department. For tackle, try not to go overboard. Remember, although the porgy is the most scrappiest fish around, you won't have much fun if you use tackle that is capable of taking twenty pound bluefish or big cod with relative ease. Use a light boat rod with a fast taper and a good conventional reel, like the Penn Squidder. Leave your spinning tackle at home if you want to catch the fish in numbers—the whippy rod action and light tip make it very difficult to set the hook in the tough mouth of the porgy. But if you are out for the sport and numbers don't matter, by all means bring that spinner with you and have a ball. Load the conventional reel with no more than 15 or 20 pound test monofilament—thirty pound test is overkill.

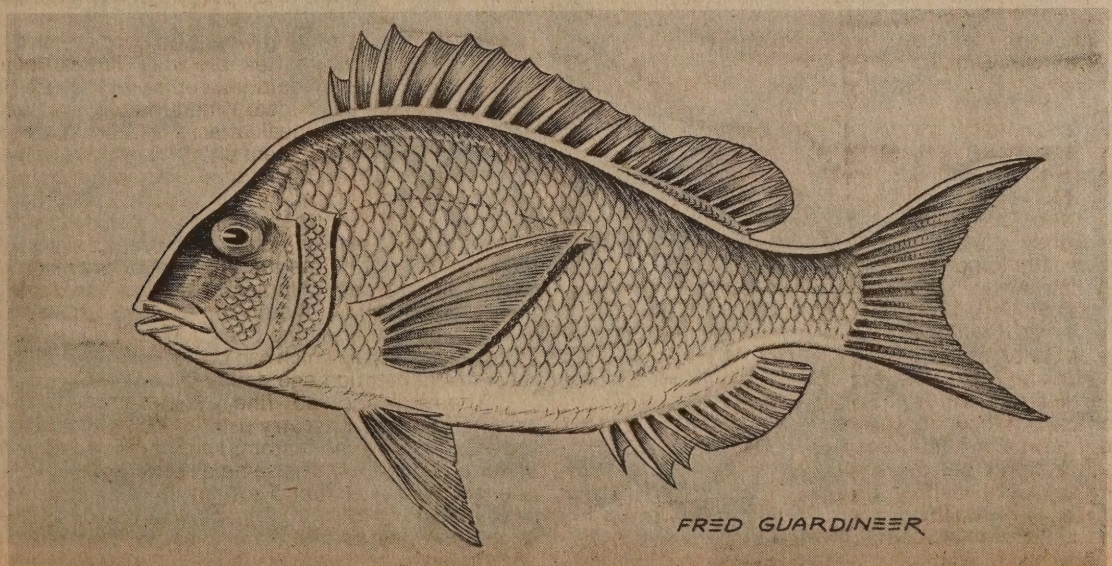
There's only one bait to use—fresh skimmer clam wins hands down. But don't be a meathead and go for the nice fleshy, firm pieces of meat that the fish can yank off the hook easily. Best bet here is to use the soft flesh of the belly of the clam, which the porgies will suck into their mouths with your hook. Hooks! Extremely sharp a must, as always.

Once again, small mouths call for small baits for the small hooks you are using. Don't load up the hook with so much bait that the porgy has to peck at it for ten minutes to get it down to size that he can get in his mouth without choking to death. Don't use a piece of bait that is too large for the fish you are catching to take in their mouths in one gulp. But don't be afraid to let the bait kind of trail off the hook a little, which seems to work better than a clump of glop for some reason. And **do not** try to bury the point of the hook in the clam. Keep it exposed so that it will be able to penetrate easily.

Porgies can be taken while either drifting or anchoring up and chumming, depending on conditions. As a rule, when the fish are biting on the drift they are somewhat easier to hook and land because they can't play their frustrating games with a moving bait. But many times you will find the porgies over rough, rocky bottoms or mussel beds, and if you drift you will find yourself spending an unacceptable amount of time rerigging. Under these conditions anchoring the boat and chumming is a must. For chum, use frozen clam bellies in a chum pot with a large mesh that won't be easily clogged by the harder pieces of clam meat. Bunker chum also works very good, and is somewhat cheaper than bellies. Best action is usually at the beginning and end of the tide when the water isn't moving too swiftly. There's usually a lull when the tide slacks for some reason, and this is when the fish can get real fussy. Porgy fishing during the strongest part of the current is usually difficult while anchored because of problem of keeping your sinker on the bottom.

The next month will see some of the hottest porgy action of the season as the fish begin to school up and feed in preparation for their offshore migration. Your best shot at filling the freezer with these tasty fish is to sail on one of the many open boats fishing out of Montauk, especially if you have a small skiff that can be dangerous with the unpredictable fall weather. Many areas of the north shore have excellent porgy fishing, so watch the fishing reports in L.I.F. to find out where the hotspots are. As I mentioned earlier, the New York Bight area has seen a resurgence of the porgy in recent years, and if you know your bottom formations and are experienced, it may be well worth giving the porgies a try soon. Particularly around the many ocean wrecks.

If catching porgies is a joke with you, it's a good bet that you have never caught one. So before you make a fool of yourself, give it a try. And bring a kid with you—there is no better fish to start a youngster's fishing career off with. And if you ever catch that elusive ten pound porgy, give me a call.!



PUGNACIOUS POLLACK

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE POLLACK IS THE MOST POPULAR AND SPORTY OF THE COD FAMILY WITH ROD-AND-REEL FISHERMEN. AVERAGES 4-10 LBS. BUT CAN EASILY HIT 30 LBS. LIKES COOL TO COLD WATERS CLOSE TO SHORE BUT IS NETTED AT DEPTHS OF 400 TO 500 FT. RANGES FROM ST. LAWRENCE RIVER TO VIRGINIA.

COLORED GREENISH BROWN, IT IS SOMETIMES CALLED "GREEN COD". THERE ARE NO SPOTS, HOWEVER, AND THE LATERAL LINE IS WHITE. OFTEN SOLD AS "BOSTON BLUEFISH", THEY PROVIDE A 10 MILLION POUND COMMERCIAL TAKE.

POLLACK FEED ON SMALL FISH, CRABS, MOLLUSKS AND ARE CAUGHT BY TROLLING AND JIGGING SPOONS AND JIGS AND ARE STRONG FIGHTERS. ALSO TAKE ARTIFICIAL FLIES ALONG INSHORE WATERS.

WORLD RECORD - ALL TACKLE - ON 50 LB. TEST LINE..46 LB 7 OZ...JOHN HOLTON, N.J.
MEN'S ... 20 LB. LINE..37-10..C.FISCHETT, L.I.
MEN'S ... 30 LB. LINE..40 LB..TOM WEIR, N.J.
WOMEN'S 30 LB. LINE..35-1..PATTY ISHKANIAN, L.I.
WOMEN'S 50 LB. LINE..29 LB..ANN DURIK, N.J.
WOMEN'S 80 LB. LINE..36-1..MARY CONNOLLY, MASS.

HADDOCK AND COD, CLOSE RELATIVES OF THE POLLACK, ARE OFTEN FOUND WITH IT ON ROCKS, REEFS AND WRECKS.

Surf Side with John Fritz

OCTOBER PROSPECTS

The shifting of the predominant wind patterns to the northwest signifies nature's intent in changing the seasons from the heat of summer to the cold of winter. Frequent days of balmy weather are to be enjoyed now, but intermittent storms and increasingly frigid cold fronts will force the natural world into preparing for the onslaught of winter. While some species of the animal world will rely on a heavier layer of fat and fur to ward off the rigors of the coming season, two species—fish and birds—prefer to retreat to more suitable climes for the harsh months ahead. Before our favorite fish depart our waters, and while they are feeding heavily in preparation for this journey, the surf caster will have his best chance to partake in sizzling surf action. As the page of the calendar is turned to the bright new month of October, Montauk Point is the place to be. This is no secret, judging from the throngs of bleary-eyed fishermen haunting every rip and cove at all hours of the night. If one can contend with the crowds, certain locations will produce more consistently than others. Most notable of these are the North Bar and the waters in front of the Lighthouse.

Although good daylight action can be enjoyed during stormy northeast blows, the most frequent results are to be found at night. Long casts are often necessary; therefore, the mainstay of the lures employed at this time are the heavy darters and bottle plugs. Gibbs for a long time had the market sewed up when it came to these types of plugs, but in the past few years, another company came out with similar lures which in most respects surpassed the old standbys. Produced under the name of "Super Strike," these plugs will cast further, granting that little edge which often makes the difference between scoring or going fishless.

The basic colors are yellow or white, but on occasion a blue or dark-colored plug will be more effective, especially on pitch dark nights. As you've heard so often, the falling tide is preferred at North Bar and high incoming at the Light. Before sunset or after dawn, try out your popping plugs at either location or any point in-between. If all else fails, switch to fishing bucktails from the large rocks found under the Light.

The early part of the month is the peak time at Montauk, both for fish and for crowds. If the mass of people become unbearable, sneak off to the south side and fish from a rocky perch under the bluffs. Low water will allow you to wade out to the more distant rocks, but be careful not to over-extend yourself for the breakers roll in here with surprising force to knock the unwary off his feet.

Bottle plugs are not usually employed under the bluffs because they swim too deep for the shallow water and many boulders encountered in this area. Stick to the Darters or surface swimming type plugs such as the seven inch Rebels, RedFins, Atom 40s, or Danny plugs.

The sandy beaches from Ditch Plains west to Point Lookout, while producing fish for those using artificials, will yield more rewarding catches of bass and blues to those using eels or bunker for bait. It wasn't too many years ago that several fifties were taken in the surf from Cedar to Jones by surfmen slinging live eels just beyond the breaking surf. Both novice and sharpie alike enjoyed this action on cow-sized bass either at night or under a bright sun. This fantastic fishing has diminished somewhat in the past year or so, but what fishing for striped bass has not? Some of the slack in the bass fishing has been taken up by teen-sized bluefish which can decimate a dozen eels in a short period of time. If this is the case, keep all those bits and pieces, for blues are not usually fussy and will take live eels, dead eels—or just pieces.

A fish finder rig with substantial tackle is required. While these beaches are sand with little in the way of obstructions in which to play your fish, heavy surf conditions often demand five or six ounces of lead in order to hold bottom. The strain on your line when easing large fish through a heavy surf calls for fifteen or twenty pound test line. Don't forget those wire leaders in case the bluefish intrude.

A few of the more productive spots are to be found just west of Ditch Plains, the east side of Moriches Inlet, Democrat Point, the Cedar-Gilgo area and Parking Field #6 at Jones Beach.

One area in western Long Island which produces impressive catches of large bass during October is the Jones Inlet area from the jetty to the fishing piers near the Wantagh Parkway Bridge. Large schools of bunker ply these waters in the accompaniment of sizeable schools of stripers. The dimensions and types of your swimming plugs can vary greatly, especially if small bait is mixed in with the larger bunker. It is advisable to carry a large assortment of plugs to try and match the changing feeding habits of the bass.

Even though striped bass can be taken with some regularity on the north shore of Long Island, the bluefish will hold the dominant position during this month. In the first week or so, the bunker will still be herded into the various harbors and bays dotting this varied coastline. Locate the bunker schools and the bluefish are rarely far away. The enticement needed to lure these blues into striking may take some experimentation. The best bet is to snag a fresh bunker and use him to best advantage—swimming live, but wounded and bleeding. After the bunker has died, fresh chunks fished on or near the bottom is a good second choice.

Those who disdain bait can use large swimming plugs such as the Atom 40s or the comparative sized Danny plugs, either at night or when the fish are not showing. Naturally, if the blues are breaking all over the top, just about anything cast into their midst will produce a strike. Occasionally, even at these times, they seem to prefer certain colors or a specific retrieve. If the hits are not occurring as they should, change color or vary the speed and action of the plug.

As the water temperature cools, the bluefish will leave the bays and move along the open beach in their journey eastward around Orient Point to the sea. Strong easterly winds tend to stall this movement, thereby producing excellent fishing over a period of days. Such was the case in early November last year on the North Fork when several days of strong east winds provided almost a week of hot fishing on teen-sized blues topped by Doc Muller's twenty pounder.

In the interim when this type fishing is non-existent, fish the bottom with bunker chunks on a fish finder rig. On many occasions, the blues will be present but will not show or feed actively. Because of their insatiable appetite, bunker chunks placed before their nose will induce a strike when all else fails.

During the daylight hours, bluefish will be the number one game fish, while after dark silent surf men diligently working the rocky coves and swirling inlets will take bass on slowly retrieved swimming plugs.

One other hard-fighting fish will move into these rocky north shore beaches as the water temperature drops. Blackfish, although not a glamour species as the bass or bluefish, does combine no-quarter fighting ability with tasty table fare. Whether it is due to the fact that other species dominate the fishing scene or just lack of interest after a long season, autumn blackfishing does not generate the response in surf casters as their arrival in the spring. Yet many fishermen claim that the fall run of blacks surpasses their spring appearance.

The locations where these fish may be pursued in the Long Island Sound area are too numerous to mention. Any area with a rocky bottom should produce. Since these fish are located in such close proximity to the rocks, pencil sinkers secured with lighter test line than you are using on your reel is a good practice. This will reduce the complete

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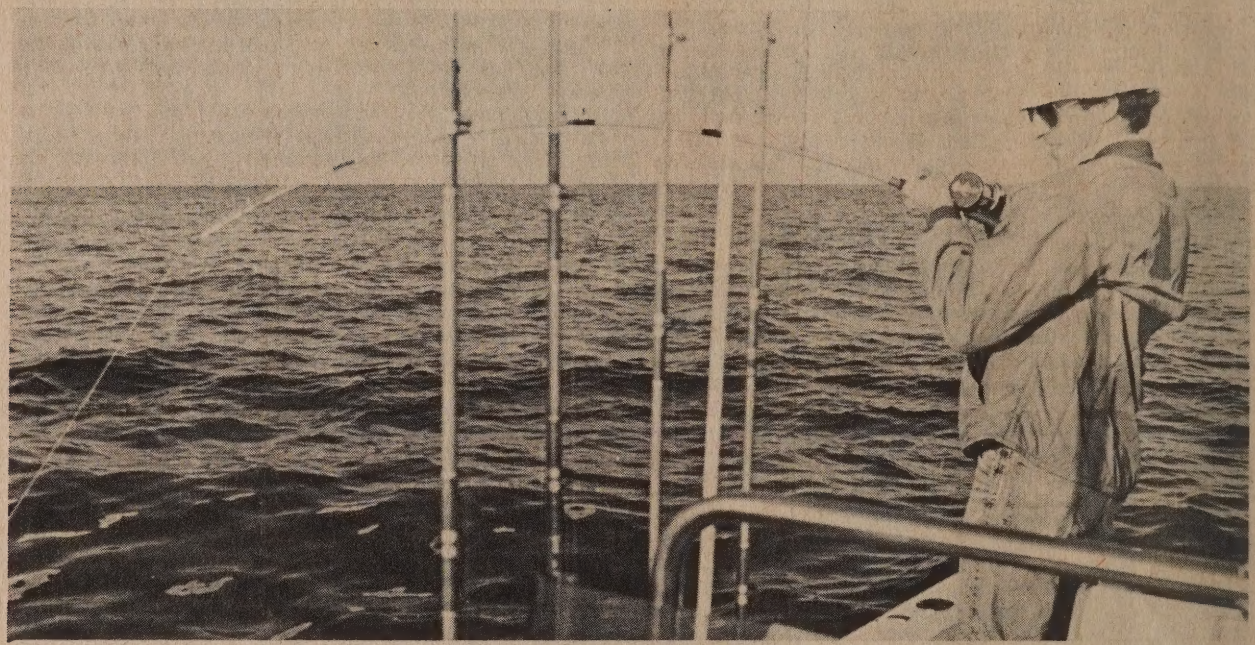
Castin' & Catchin'

by Tim Coleman



Plug casting works! It worked "yesterday" before the advent of the center console, 235 h.p., bunker dunker; it works today in a variety of spots and it will work (if we still have bass) when the first 400 h.p. outboard is put on the market. Any method that has withstood the test of time should not be overlooked.

In the last eight years live bait fishing has been the route for most of the Hi Liners. Exceptions to this would be fellows like John DeMaio over in Montauk who consistently caught 15,000 plus pounds of bass a year using diamond jigs and bucktails or a fellow who trolled big plugs in and around the Race. There are other master fishermen I'm sure who didn't jump on the live bait bandwagon, but for the majority, herring, mackerel and bunker fishing has been THE method.

Lots of newcomers to bass have taken their first fish in the forties in a relatively short period of time thanks to a wiggling pogy. It is a lot easier to catch a fish with a pogy than a plug. Don't get me wrong. Live bait fishing is an art. Guys who have taken 15,000 to 22,000 pounds of bass per year with a rod and reel and bait tank did so because they know a few dozen tricks to get the fish to consistently eat the bait.

That still doesn't get away from the fact that plug fishing is harder for a newcomer to master. Perhaps that's why it has been relegated to its present second-rate status by a lot of anglers; however, times change. The only thing permanent in this world is liable to be change. Plug casting isn't dead.

The weekend of July 29, Charlie Soares, Pat Abate and myself got into some good fishing on the morning tide. That day and subsequent trips, I noticed some of the hard core casting plugs in addition to dragging the rigs or tube and worm. In other areas, like Block Island, more regulars have been using plugs. One fellow I fished with—let's call him Silent George—said he was impressed with plug casting. George has taken numerous forties, a few fifties and one sixty-three pounder with bait. After a couple sessions casting plugs, he said he was going to make up a stick expressly for plug casting. He also noted you remember fish more when you take them with a plug than with a piece of bait.

Another aspect of plug fishing is that you don't have to worry about catching bait prior to going fishing. Silent George has told me on more than one occasion, that it took longer to get the bait than a couple of back-to-back forty-nine pounders. You can just go down to your boat, turn the key and away you go. If you want to be somewhere at first light, you don't have to snag or net bait the night before. Or, you don't have to lose those precious two hours in the morning snagging bait. When the sky gets pink you are right where you want to be.

Bait fishing, especially with bunker, is repetitious to me. At times, it got stale for lack of variety, even considering fishing whole dead bait, chunk bait or live stuff. It also reduced bass fishing to a lousy ending. Pulling a thirty pound fish in with a one pound bunker stuffed in his throat and a 4/0 stainless steel treble tearing out his insides was what you expected and got. Bear in mind, that's a purely personal observation that a lot of good fishermen would disagree with.

Plug casting offers more diversity, just as much expectation, and more uncertainty. Being in an open bass boat maneuvered on the outside of a foaming reef at first light is exciting. Ever see a thirty to forty pound fish come right up out of the water, silhouetted in the rising sun, as she tangles with wood and hooks? Sights like that make bass fishin' for me, especially when the fish was fooled with an artificial.

Enough of the philosophy behind plug fishing: let's get into the mechanics. Thousands of plugs are up on the walls waiting for your dollars. For my money you won't go wrong buying either Danny or Atom 40 Swimmers or a Reverse Atom. There are certainly other lures capable of fooling bass, but those three should get anyone started in plug casting. Now, some tips on using plugs.

Times: The hours just before and after sunrise are tops. Fish are usually actively feeding then. Dusk is good also, but on a yearly basis the morning is better. Plugs will work at times during the day. Overcast skies offer the best chances. One bet in the daytime is, find a reef surrounded by water thirty to fifty feet deep. More than likely the fish set up residence around it. They don't go to the spot in the morning, then move out once the sun gets up. The Danny or the Atom 40 will work at night—particularly on flat water. On a moonlit night, a white surface swimmer might surprise you.

Tackle: Conventional gets my vote, but a lot of fishermen use spinning. Reels like the Garcia 9000, Penn Squidder or Jigmaster with the Newell Conversion spool or the factory aluminum spool are good choices. The aluminum spool on the latter reel reduces backlashes. For a rod, you might try cutting about six to six-and-a-half feet out of the middle of a Lamiglas blank #1165. At first glance, you see a broomhandle capable of casting nothing, but this blank is thin-walled. It has enough spring to deliver a three to three-and-a-half ounce lure a surprising distance. The rod then has p-l-e-n-t-y of power to drive home the hooks. On the other end of the lure range the stick will heave ounce-and-a-quarter bucktails an acceptable distance. Thirty pound mono is a good choice for conventional.

For spinning, the Penn 750SS seems to be a rugged reel. If you can find one, the Crack 300 is a heavy son-of-a-gun that just seems to keep taking bass after bass for fellows who chased fish longer than I've been alive. In choosing a blank for a spinning stick, make sure it has enough backbone for bigger plugs. Something suitable for small Rebels might not work for Atom 40s. Twenty pound mono is good for spinning gear.

One secret to getting a lot of action out of swimming plugs is the type snap used. Try a Duo-Lock, eighty pound size. Be careful with smaller versions of these. I've seen them come open under pressure from a heavy fish: not so with the eighties. The rounded end of this snap reduces friction between the metal surface of the front eye of the plug and the snap itself. Less friction means more side-to-side motion.

Techniques: For the swimmers, work them at a steady rate of retrieve so they come across the top with a V wake. If a fish comes up after the plug, but misses, try speeding up the retrieve. You should also try lifting the rod tip to make the swimmer pop in the water. The noise

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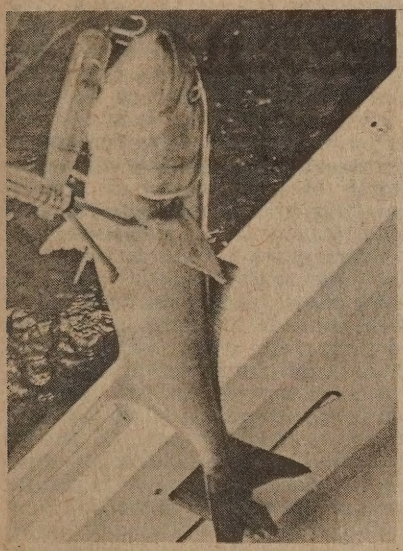
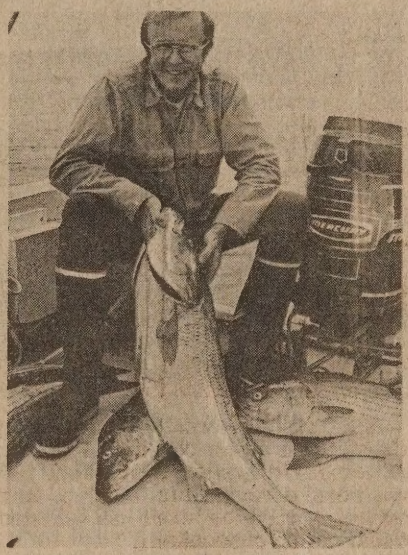


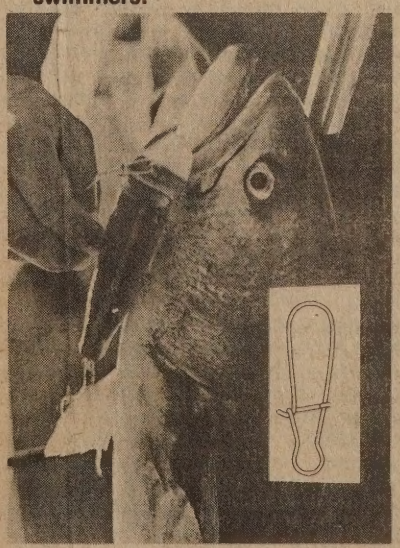
This bluefish grabbed a Reverse Atom skidded across the surface.

Bass are usually more partial to swimmers.



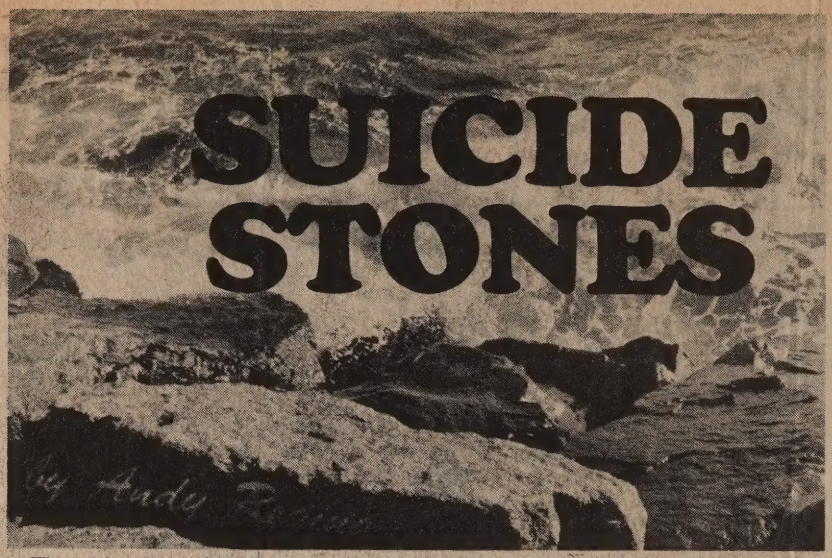
Author with a 34 lbr. taken at daybreak on July 29th.

Rod on the left is 6' long. It was cut out of the middle of a Lamiglas 1165 blank. See text for reason.



Rounded edge of 80 lb. Duo-Lock Snap provides more action for surface swimming plugs.

Charlie Soares unhooking a blue. Watch your fingers!



The big blackfish struggled to regain the sanctuary of her favorite hole in the rocks below, betrayed by a tempting fiddler crab, stung by the tempered steel hook in her jaw, and overpowered by the thirty pound test monofilament line that was dragging her towards the surface. At times it appeared as if the fish would win the battle, as she succeeded in taking line against the protesting drag, but the outcome was inevitable; and soon she was finning feebly on the surface, where she was lifted by a net onto dry land. As I removed the hook and placed that six pound beauty on my stringer, I paused to admire her once more, basking in the good fortune that smiled that day on me—and glad that I had guessed right for a change.

It was Sunday morning, and I had to make a choice between trying for stripers beneath the Throgg's Neck Bridge or fishing for blackfish from the jetty at Fort Schuyler. Ordinarily, it would have been no contest; I always lean towards bass fishing. Today I was influenced by three contributing factors: my friend, Joe Pop, was bugging me to go fishing with him; our store had a sale that week on steamer clams, and the butcher donated several pounds on the off-chance that he might get some fresh fish out of the deal; and finally, reports of blackfish being caught from that jetty had proven too strong to resist.

Telling my pal to pick up some fiddler crabs as insurance bait, we met in front of the gate to the Fort, and drove to the jetty site. Earlier that year, we had purchased special permits that allowed us access to the Fort grounds; specifically for fishing one certain jetty located at parking field #9, and now we were intent on realizing a return on our modest investment.

Jetties are man's feeble attempt at fighting nature. Built to retard erosion of beach fronts, these stone outcroppings break the backs of pounding waves that would otherwise crash against the shore, gouging out tons of sand and removing it with each receding wave, to be deposited elsewhere by the strong underwater currents. They do the job they were originally engineered for, but luckily for us, further create excellent fish structure also. As the currents diverted by the jetties sweep around the tip, they scour deep holes along the bottom that enable fish to be caught quite close to shore; furthermore, the stones used for most jetty construction soon become encrusted with barnacles, mussels, and seaweed—which not only feeds hungry fish, but also provides protection for them from predators.

Jerry Kenney, the Outdoor Editor of The News, calls jetties "Suicide Stones," a term probably influenced by his strong love of boats, but actually a perfect description of what could be extremely dangerous territory for the uninitiated or foolhardy angler. Because of this prevalent element of danger, created by slippery footing, loose rocks, or immersion at high tides, jetties should always be fished via the buddy system. Having someone along can make the slow fishing periods less boring, giving you someone to rap with as you wait out peaks of inactivity. If you are fortunate enough to choose a partner experienced in jetty lore, so much the better, as now you can absorb vital experience that will not only enable you to fish safely, but glean fishing methods or techniques that might make life on the rocks productive too.

First of all, **never** fish alone at night. Not only will a companion provide assistance with rigging, or help gaffing fish or holding a light for baiting or unhooking, he will be there to help if you slip or fall. Secondly, never fish **any** jetty that gets completely inundated at high tide without first checking your tide tables, and be sure to leave well before full flood. Too many anglers get trapped, or fall into the water and get swept seaward by the strong currents created around jetties, especially at night when no one is around to see or help. The very least you can expect for any foolhardy disregard is a thorough soaking; the worst could very well be death by drowning.

To help gain sure footing and firm purchase on rocks that can become slick as an eel from salt spray, the jetty jocks wear special footwear. Years ago, we used to rivet bottle caps to roller skate straps, buckling them over our boots so that the corrugated edges acted as spikes, gripping wet weed securely. Others glued the spiked soles of golf shoes to their boot soles, or had the spikes actually connected to their boots by a cobbler. This also worked well, but had a tendency to skid sometimes; so carpeting or felt was glued to boot bottoms, providing a better grip on wet, weedless rocks. Today you can purchase ice creepers that can be strapped over your boots, much the same way that you slip tire chains on, allowing you to be properly shod for any conditions—wet, weed or weedless, or dry. You can slip 'em on or off as needed, and they're easy to carry.

Maintain your balance by first choosing a steady platform, spacing your feet slightly apart so that your entire weight is not shifted onto one leg while casting. Furthermore, eliminating all Herculean casts will reduce much of the problem of shifting weight distribution, thereby reducing your odds of slipping also. Besides, because of the fact that very often the best fishing often occurs close by the jetty proper, you do not need to cast very far to be in productive territory anyway. Most anglers actually overcast when jetty fishing anyhow, reaching way out for the big ones, while the fish may be within twenty or thirty yards of the jetty. If fish are attracted to jetties as feeding structures, does it make sense to cast far away from that very attraction?

This fact also makes jetty fishing tackle specialized; no longer required are those ten or eleven foot surf rods that get the beach rat far out into deep water. Here the deep water is close at hand; so a seven or eight foot rod with a shorter, less unwieldly butt is not only more comfortable to use, but does the job with a deadly efficiency. Not only can you handle the shorter lengths more easily, but because jetty fishing demands methodical casting, your task will be made that much simpler, too.

To extract the maximum potential of any jetty, you must consider the entire structure as productive; do not proceed directly to the very tip before fishing, as you may actually pass over some of the more productive areas. Remember that the water is fairly deep around all jetties, and proceed to fish from the very base of the structure, working your way to the tip by stages, fishing the entire length of one side before assaying the tip; then fishing your way back to the base again on the opposite side. And if you employ one more jetty fishing trick along the way, you'll be able to extract any jetty's potential to the fullest.

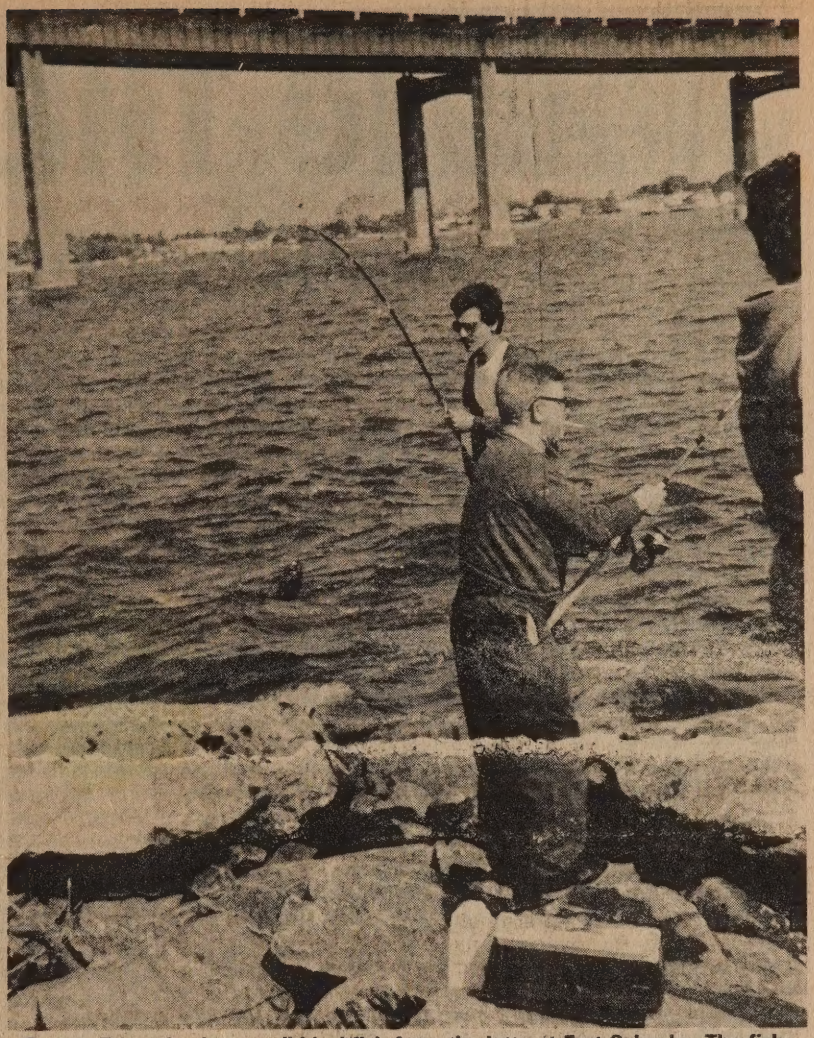
Called fan casting, this method

calls for making several casts at each stop along your circuit of the jetty. Make your first cast parallel to the jetty, and close by. Each succeeding cast from that point should radiate from you like the spokes of a wheel, with you as the hub of that wheel. If you make each succeeding cast about thirty degrees from the previous cast, you can get about six angles from each position, working your way gradually from right to left by degrees. Now, if you vary the length, you can make three or four casts along each radius. Make your first cast on the first segment fairly short, progressing to successively longer casts along each segment before proceeding to the next segment, or spoke, of your first stopping-off spot. Do the same at each successive radius, creating that fan-like effect that gives this particular technique its distinctive name, before proceeding to the next spot along the jetty. Continuing this technique at each spot, you can well see how great an area can be probed for fish at any jetty, and if you increase your area, you automatically increase your potential.

Using steamer clams, we threaded #5 Virginia hooks into the exposed necks, much as you would thread worms on flounder hooks, sliding that clam neck around the bend and up the shank of the hook, before completely burying the hook within the clam body, still intact within its shell. Then we cracked the paper-thin shell with our boot heel gently, so as not to crush the entire clam while keeping the major portion of the shell intact. This allows the natural juices of the clam to escape underwater, creating a miniature chum slick to entice hungry blackfish to the hook. And we only use one hook: those tandem-tied blackfish rigs that work so well from boats usually end up getting us snagged on bottom more often than not; so from the rocks we hedge our bets by using single-hook rigs, perhaps settling for less bites, but most assuredly getting hung-up less often.

The staccato woodpecker taps of a million bergalls drove me crazy, but that's one of the prices you have to pay when you fish for blackfish. Blacks and bergalls are distant relatives, and each enjoys the same bottom structure and natural diet of the other. If you want to latch onto some blacks though, you gotta force yourself to ignore those pesky bait stealers, and wait for the solid tug that spells blackfish with a capital B. That's when you must set the hook with a sharp upward thrust of your rod, and reel like crazy to keep that blackfish away from its beloved rocks.

I couldn't resist those machine gun bites if my life was dependent on it, and I couldn't help flailing away with my rod, though I knew that by doing so I was diminishing my chances at catching a blackfish. Those fish are pretty shy critters, and any movements send them scurrying for cover, leaving you at the mercy of those fearless bergalls, thus compounding any problems caused by them in the first place, and only ceasing when your hook is stripped bare. Remembering that Joe had purchased some fiddler crabs, I decided to change my method of attack; if nothing else, the harder crab baits might even be more of a deterrent to those bergalls, and besides—blackfish loved fiddlers, too.



Tom DeTrinca lands a small blackfish from the jetty at Fort Schuyler. The fish was ultimately released so that it could grow up.

We bait with fiddlers by first removing that oversized claw that gives this little crab its unique appearance and apt name. When they wave that big claw across their bodies, they really look like they're sawing a bass fiddle anyway. Why we break the big claw off, I don't honestly know. In their natural state, they are eaten by blackfish with that giant mandible intact; so I guess that this practice originated with some fishermen who didn't appreciate being nipped by those mini-crabs with the lobster-like claw.

Once that claw is removed, insert the hook into the cavity created by the claw removal, and swivel the hook through the crab body until the hook point and barb penetrate through the shell, and are completely exposed, which assures quicker and surer penetration when blackfish strike. Try not to pierce the crab too deeply though, keeping it alive to walk along the rocky bottom, tempting some over-anxious blackfish into biting.

Although we love to use spinning tackle, it is our personal opinion that, in this instance, it is too limber and forgiving to properly manhandle bulldog blacks in the rocks. Your own personal preference is up to you; but we feel that the somewhat stiffer conventional rods not only offer us a more sensitive sense of feel, but better line control, especially with fish on. If you can handle conventional reels without creating your own nightmarish backlashes, do so by all means. If your thing is spinning, use it, confident in the fact that it too can do a creditable job. In either case, if you maintain a tight line with no slack, and hold that line in your fingers, you will feel fish bites much better.

Simply reach under your reel with your hand, and up over the rod in front of the reel, grasping the line between your thumb and forefinger. And remember, when that big black hits, hit him back hard, and start reeling—it will be his turn to call that jetty the Suicide Stones.

JIGGING THE BLUES

by Herb Buch

Jigs have become an increasingly important part of the party boat bluefisherman's equipment. Not that they didn't catch fish in the past. It was just that a piece of cut bait on a hook was so deadly and easy to use that very few people bothered with jigs. Drifting bait in a chum line was the most productive way of catching blues, but last year it did not pay off as well as in other years. Frequently, the only blues that were taken, went to some ambitious anglers who were diligently and vigorously working jigs. Then, when the fall migration began, everybody was squidding or jigging, and very few fish were taken on anything else.

It sounds easy, when you listen to the reports. Just drop a jig to the bottom, and pump it up and down until a fish hits. Let's take a typical day, and see how easy it is.

The Captain Speedy VI left New York State's Captree State Park dock just before dawn on a chilly day in October. Less than a half-hour later, we were leaving the inlet and the Captain announced via the public address system, that we were approaching a big flock of gulls that were working over fish. He suggested rigging with jigs, and getting out of the warm cabin where the hot coffee and snacks were filling empty stomachs.

As the Captain maneuvered the boat into position for a good drift, he kept reporting on the fish his sonar was recording. When he felt that we were in position to drift over a dense concentration of fish, he stopped the engines and everybody began to fish. The recorder had located loads of fish, the water was full of sand eels, and occasional breaks indicated feeding fish, but no one hooked up.

Action was very slow, but occasionally someone hooked a bluefish in the five pound class, and brought it in. Repeated drifts produced the same sort of action. However, a pattern was emerging. Three individual fishermen on the side of the boat near the stern were getting most of the action. These three were not next to each other, and were not friends, but they were getting almost one hundred percent of the fish caught on the boat. When their catch hit about five per man, the other sixty plus passengers had about five fish for the lot of them. At that point, I stopped fishing and watched. There had to be something going for these men since plenty of the others were also experienced and capable.

Life is seldom simple and neither was this. They were all using diamond jigs, but so were ninety percent of the other anglers. Two of them had conventional rods and reels; one had a spinning outfit. The first thing that I noticed was that each of them was proficient at flipping his jig a fair distance away from the boat before letting it sink. An underhand flip did the job, but most of the others on the boat could not do this without a bad overrun; so they did not bother trying.

Then I noticed that these three guys were using an Ava diamond jig, in a three ounce size, with a single, large O'Shaughnessy hook attached to the jig by a swivel. This could not be the explanation by itself, because the rental rods supplied by the boat were all equipped with the same jig. If the Captain chose these jigs to supply his passengers, they must be good—but why weren't the renters catching fish? Maybe the fact that they could not cast with those rental rods made the difference. Then again, there were a few other anglers using the same jig and casting, but not producing any fish.

Perhaps manipulation made the difference. Each of these men let the jig hit bottom at the end of the cast by free spooling the line, which allowed it to sink at maximum distance from the boat. Then they reeled as if their lives depended upon speed, and each of them had the spool of his reel as full as possible, to produce the greatest line recovery for each turn of the handle. Now I also noticed that one of the conventional reels was a high gear ratio model, and so was the spinning reel.

The pattern made sense. Get the lure as far away from the boat as possible to reach unsophisticated fish that had not seen the multitude of lures under the boat. Reel as fast as possible so that the jig could develop its action and tempt the neutral fish that had to be triggered by speed.

My friends and I imitated this pattern and we also begn to take fish. However, we learned that the choice of the particular lure was an important part of the pattern. Most diamond jigs did not seem to appeal to the fish in the way that the successful one did. Perhaps it imitated the action of a frightened sand eel very well. All of the fish were loaded with sand eels, which they regurgitated on the deck. Although all of the passengers had a few fish by the end of the day, my friends and I did much better by copying the successful pattern.

As you can see, there is more to this game than meets the eye. For example, on another day this past fall, the wind was very strong and we consequently had a very fast drift. In those circumstances, if I have a choice, I usually fish on the trailing side of the boat; that is, the side where my line will not drift under the boat, nor will a fish usually carry me under to very likely cut me off on the boat's bottom. Since the boat was not very full, it seemed like everyone had the same idea that I did—which left the other side of the boat just about empty. Since we were all catching occasional bluefish in the twelve pound plus size range, and each fish took a long time to land, we were very happy to have them way out behind the drifting boat, which kept tangles to a minimum.

During a lull in the action, I moved around to take some pictures, and found one of the mates fishing on the other side of the boat. He had a fish on, so I stayed to watch. He brought up a big weakfish, but before a gaff could go into action, the fish tore off. He told me that he was consistently hitting fish on this side, and he felt that his lure was the first one that the fish would see since we were drifting in this direction. It certainly made sense, and without a crowd of fishermen to tangle with, the pattern could be very productive.

Words of warning are in order. Unless you fish a heavy outfit with heavy line, you are going to lose a lot of fish with this approach. My preference is to catch fewer, but be able to play them far out before bringing them in for gaffing. A green fish close to a party boat is trouble for all fishermen in the area. Even if you land the fish, you will also bring in anywhere from two to ten or more other lines. The mates will help to clear the mess, but no one fishes until it's all clear. In addition, you had better cut back your line significantly, because abrasion against other lines may weaken it enough to break on the next fish.

The way that you work a fish will also contribute to your final score. The terror of the party boat is the man who is glued to his spot at the rail. He stays in one place, but the fish runs back and forth. As a result, there is an unbelievable tangle. If two lines have fish attached, it is very likely that one or both of them will break off due to the line-to-line friction. Avoid this by following your fish as it

runs. You can do this easily by keeping the tip of your rod up and walking behind the others at the rail while yelling "fish on, passing by" as you proceed. If you give the fish a little time to fight against a tight drag, he will be ready to come in with a lot less energy for sudden rushes that can cause tangles. When you have him near the boat, yell for the gaff if he is a big one. Last season there were many days where every fish required the use of a gaff. Everyone knows that the bluefish is a roughhousing, powerful battler with few equals. They just don't give up, and you have to watch your fingers even after they are in the boat. A billy club will help to quiet them down before you unhook them. Avoid multiple hooks at all costs. One hook is all that you want to wrestle out of that toothy trap. The single hook is also better for holding fish. There are heavy duty pistol-grip disgorgers available that are worth carrying in your pocket. Even taking a hook out of a dead fish's mouth with your bare hand can be dangerous. They have darn tough jaws, and if your hand slips under stress, you can slash your fingers brutally. Carry a few band-aids for such emergencies, or better yet, always use the billy and disgorger. When the mates are not busy, they will take your fish off for you. They really work hard to help make your trip a success, and they deserve the tips which they receive.

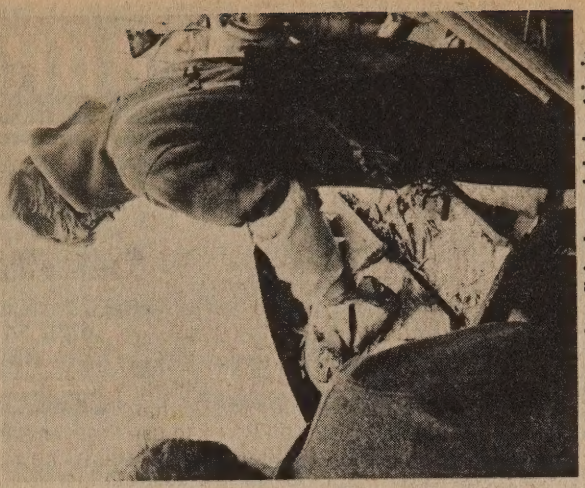
To me, the most exciting part of jigging in the fall is the potential for catching many varieties of fish. In addition to the bluefish, which is the primary quarry, there is always a chance for weakfish, striped bass, bonito, or false albacore (little tuna). All of these, except for the little tuna, are good to eat. Little tuna are very bloody and not very appetizing when fresh; but if you can them, they taste as good as many varieties of canned tuna, and make a delicious salad. The canning process involves some pre-soaking in salt water to remove the blood.

If I were fishing for the pot I would prefer weaks to blues. Fresh bluefish are delicious, but after spending a month or two in a freezer, leaves much to be desired. In contrast, weakfish are a relatively lean fish, and taste good both fresh and out of the freezer. However, you take what you get, and when it comes to weakfish you don't get too many because they tear off of the hook too easily when played with the tight drag which you need to control the bluefish. Stripers are relatively a rare catch except at Montauk Point, where some boats specialize in jigging for them in the fall. Last season, there were many bonito taken, as they seemed to be fairly common. They fight very well, as do all members of the tuna tribe. Their fast runs will often announce their presence. Little tuna are also fast runners and if you hook a teen-sized fish, you will know that you have been in a fight.

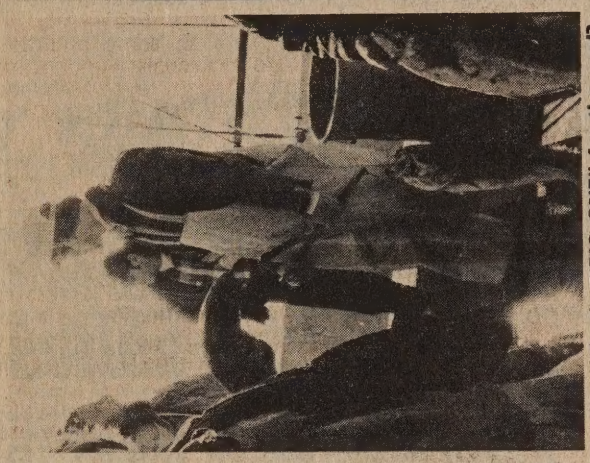
The most successful equipment seems to be a seven to eight foot rod with a powerful butt, and a tip that is responsive enough to flip and jig a lure easily. Conventional tackle gives me much more control of a powerful fish under the crowded conditions found on a party boat. A fast retrieve reel is most favorable, but a conventional reel with a well-filled spool will also catch fish. The line that you use is a very important key to your success. Firstly, use nothing but a top quality line, and carry some extra line with you if possible. Buying a filler spool of your favorite line will allow you to replace the outer hundred yards of line for each trip at relatively little expense. By doing this you always have fresh strong line ready for that big one that you always wanted to land.

Deciding on the line strength can be very difficult. I am sure that I get more hits on lighter line, but party boat fishing means that smaller fish have to be lifted over the rail. Since I would not abuse my rod in this way, I grab the line and swing the fish aboard. This sort of use requires a line of at least twenty pound test, which is what I often use. Most fishermen would probably be happier with thirty pound test, which is much more durable.

Working lures from a party boat is hard work. You will become an addict though, if you experience one blitz. At times your first jigging motion will hook a fish. If you lose that one on the way up, a quick drop to the bottom, and another sharp lift and you are into another one. It's exciting, rewarding, and you will sleep well on the ride back to the dock.



Passenger has fish cleaned during trip in.



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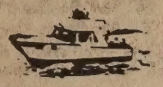

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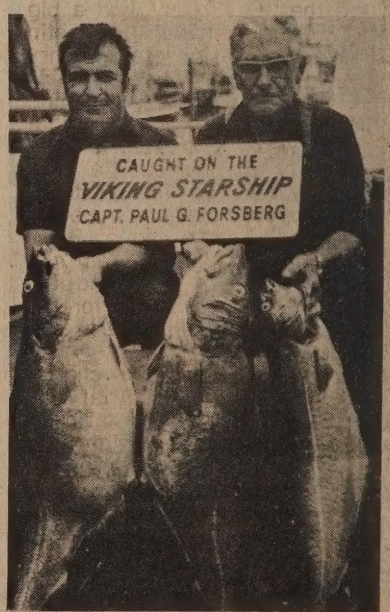
PORGIES

The action at the Point last week took a decided down-turn as a result of the strong northeaserly winds both early and late in the week. The water was constantly churned up and never had a chance to calm down. The bluefishing seems to have suffered as a result, but the porgy fishing improved and the fall run of fish appears to be on in full force. Some fair catches of fluke have been made in the North Rips and on the southside, but this action should just about be over and end any day now. A few big blackfish have started to show at Outer Shagwong. Although few boats have been sailing offshore these days, those that are have been bagging makos and some real giant blue sharks. Striped bass don't seem to exist, either day or night. Occasional weakfish are being taken with the bluefish.

Captain Fred Bird of the **Flying Cloud** reported that his boat has really been blitzing porgies of mixed sizes whenever the weather has decided to cooperate. He has been fishing the south side of the Point when the winds are northerly and the Block Island grounds when the winds are calm. There's plenty of nice sea bass, blackfish and an occasional bonito taken on the porgy rigs, and one day during the week, five fluke took clam baits. The largest was 8½ lbs. An occasional cod has also been taken when fishing Block. The porgies average about 2 lbs. and range up to 3½ lb. "humpbacks."

Capt. John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide** called us early in the week and said that the boats were finding the finest kind of bluefishing at Cartwright. The blues taken there on herring bait or diamond jigging are the real Montauk Monsters and range from 12 to 15 or 16 lbs. Sweet John said he is now concentrating on inshore fishing for striped bass and the Cartwright bluefish.

Captain Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** told us that now that the strong moon tides are gone, the



Joe Peragine and John Maslansky were the pool winners on a recent cod trip aboard the "Viking Starship" out of Montauk. The fish weighed 51 and 46 lbs. respectively.

Mark and Nicky Sennefelder of Gone Fishing Marina with bass of 40 and 31 lbs. taken on live eels off Montauk Point.

porgies have really started to chew under the Guns and east of Great Eastern. Catches in the 100s a man are now an everyday occurrence. Phil Westbrook of Brooklyn fished in the bow on Sunday and was high hook with 132 fish. Phil and Ed Bryant of the Bronx, who fished in the stern, teamed up on Saturday and Sunday and took a grand total of 476 porgies between them. The porgies are mixed sizes with a few sea bass mixed in.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that the few boats still venturing offshore are taking some really huge sharks in the Butterfish Hole. On Wednesday, the "Thresher" took a giant mako shark of 300 lbs, and took a second of 100 lbs. on Saturday. On the weekend, the "matima" landed a blue shark of 270 lbs. and the "Daybreak" had a big blue of 250 lbs. Although no bluefin tuna have been taken lately, Henry said that a few have been marked so they may still be around. Bluefishing ran hot and luke-warm at Cartwright during the week, and seem to have momentarily abandoned the Submarine Buoy. Most consistent catches of blues have been made by the boats traveling to the north end of Block Island. Fluke fishing was fair and fading on the south side, and the porgy action took an upturn for the better east of Great Eastern and under the Guns.

Captain Gene Kelly of the charter boat **Sea Doll** told us that the bluefishing has been erratic at Southwest Ledge and Cartwright, but he found the hottest action during the week fishing the North Reef, which is the northern point of Block Island. One day during the week, the charter aboard landed 170 bluefish and twelve weakfish diamond jigging. Still plenty of makos and huge blue sharks in the Butterfish Hole and south of Block Island for those who are looking for offshore action. Gene said that he will now be running almost all inshore trips, diamond jigging for bass aNd blues during the fall run which should be starting at any time now.

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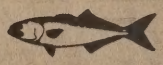

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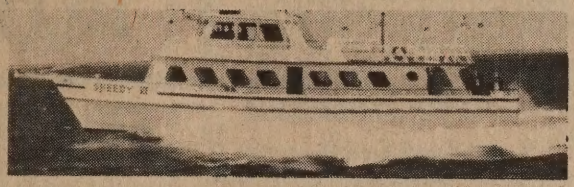

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Capt. Frank Maccaro of the charterboat **Free Spirit** called to say that the Cartwright bluefishing on Monday was tremendous. Sixty fish in the 15 lb. range were taken then diamond jigging. Wednesday's and Thursday's inshore trips resulted in good catches of bluefish at Great Eastern, but they were off a smaller variety. On Saturday Frank said he did a job on the bluefish on the south side in 60 ft. of water off the town. All of the fish were in the 5-8 lb. class and could be caught any way you fished—trolling, jigging, etc. Sunday's trip also resulted in big bluefish at Great Eastern and on the south side, and Frank noted that the offshore fishing is still good whenever weather permits. Frank said he has some inshore dates available, so give him a call now.

Captain John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** reported that the high northerly winds during the week made for some erratic bluefishing just about everywhere. Most consistent action was probably at Cartwright, but some days it was a struggle to take 25 blues in a half-day trip. But they are all slammers in the 10-15 lb. class.

Maureen at the **Gone Fishing Marina** reported that there are still plenty of nice bluefish providing action at Cartwright for diamond jiggers. The fluke are very scarce, but the boat "High Hopes" did manage to take 12 fluke up to 8 lbs. on the south side. The boat "JV" got a nice mess of blackfish on the south side and there is still porgy action there.

Capt. Ron of the charter boat **Julie III** called to report that Sunday's party of 5, fished Cartwright taking 59 blues and one bonito, all in the 10-15½ lb. range, on jigs.

Charter boat **Adios** called to report that they are fishing north of Block Is. and have been successful jigging tubes and diamond jigs for bluefish and a good by-catch of weaks.

Charterboat **Darius II** called to tell us that he bagged 11 makos on his last 14 trips, including a 312 lb. monster mako.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** says the fishing is fabulous right now. Cod picked up and was very good on the weekend on the daily Coxes Ledge run. Porgy action was

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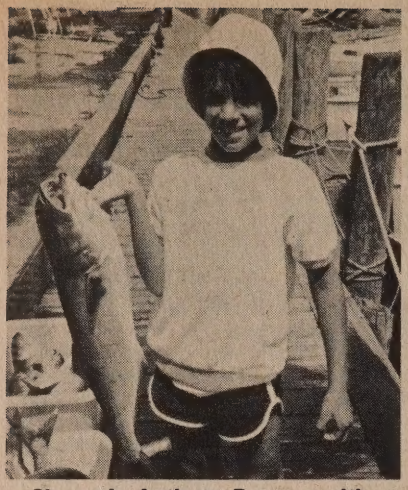

Shown in Anthony Petrone with one of many large bluefish he caught along with Tony Sr. aboard Capt. John DeMaio's charter boat "Vivienne."

very good with fish bigger on the Block Island grounds that he is working, all in the 3½-4 lb. range. The night blues are just unbelievably fabulous running from 12 lbs. up to 22 lbs.—real monsters. Note that the Viking Star is now making the porgy runs. See ad for complete details.

Fritz Garrecht of East Meadow took a 91 lb. white marlin on July 18 fishing aboard Capt. Paul Sundburg's charter boat **Montauk**. He took this fish on a Kencor #950 reel and 50 lb. test line.

On Sept. 20, Capt. Sundburg had another trip out, bagging 2 bass of 15 lbs. each and 15 weaks from 10-13 lbs., along with 230 blues for a charter arranged by Jerry Moran. They fished the north end of Block Is. Ava jigs wer were used.

Charter boat **Eljon** called and asked us to mention that he has some choice fall dates open for bass and blues. See ad for details under the West Lake Lodge Fishing Station heading.

SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
BLUES

SHINNECOCK

Mickey at **Altenkirch Tackle** reported that two makos in the 200 lb. class were taken in 180-200 ft. of water offshore. Plenty of bluefish with a mix of albacore right outside the inlet, and the bay is now loaded with big snappers. Flounder fishing is just starting, but the water is a little warm and the fish are pretty small. The fluke are just about gone. Surf casters have been taking bluefish along the sand beaches and from the Shinnecock jetties along with an occasional bass at night.

HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station reports fluking still productive in Shinnecock Bay. On Saturday, the Traffart party took 15 keeper fluke and six 2-3 lb. bluefish using salty dogs with a strip teaser fishing in the E. Channel by the Inlet. On Sunday, Rudy Williams and friend John took over 50 good sized flounder fishing area east of the E. Channel using sand worms. Some flounder action was also had by the Shinnecock CG station.

MORICHES BAY

Skidmore's Fishing Station tells us that flounder fishing was good over the weekend with Hank Schlanger taking 40 fish on Sat. These fish were caught on bloodworms near buoy 42. All signs indicate an excellent fall flounder run. In addition to the flounder, many large porgies, sea bass and small bluefish are being caught. One boat had about 35 porgies with 10 that went over 2 lbs. Anglers fishing around buoy 44 were surprised with a good showing of fluke this weekend. It looks like this will be the last shot at fluke this season. Blue claw crabs remain at their season's peak with many large ones being taken.

Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station reported that a few fluke are still being taken in the inlet, but they are almost all gone. Boats crabbing around buoy 27 at Forge River have been taking 1½ to 2 dozen nice blueclaw crabs. Crabbing should get much better within the next two weeks. A few flounder are being taken around the inlet, but they are small. Boats fishing off the rocks in the inlet have been taking 30-40 blackfish while others are trolling the blues deep on umbrella rigs three miles from the Inlet.

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GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
BLUEFISH

MASTIC BEACH

gary at **Stiriz Fishing Station** tells of good crabbing from the bridge to buoy 19 in rings and traps. Very good snapper fishing, specimens going up to 1½ lbs., from buoy 12 to 19. Flounders have started at buoys 12 and 13 on the other side of the bridge, though not a lot. The ones taken are good sized running from 1-1¼ lbs. on worms and mussel chum.

Charterboat **Seamist** reports blues were slow Sat. due to heavy seas, but catches picked up on Sun., with best results at the 90 ft. mark. Capt. Fred says he still has some choice weekend dates open.

SAYVILLE

Vinnie at **Young's Fishing Station** gave us the startling news about Clyde Oakley catching a 3½ ft. long mako shark just off Greens Pt., barely ½ mile out of the station while bottom fishing. You can bet Clyde has some battle on his hands. Lots of big snappers roaming all over the bay hitting shiners and small tins. Blues, weaks and kings all smacking baits on the bottom within one mile of any direction of the station. No flounder reports as yet, but still some fluke being caught on killie/squid combos from Ocean Beach on west.

BAY SHORE

The Casey Lee reports fishing has been very good for mixed bags of flounder, blowfish, sea bass, kings, fluke, porgies, blueclaws, pilot fish and snappers. On Sun. they had a dozen jumbo blowfish and another dozen mediums. Best fishing has been from West channel to the deep hole at the wreck buoy and in the state channel.

Carl at **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** reports about another week of fluking left in Fl inlet, fish still hitting squid/sand eel combos west of the Moses Bridge along the south beach. Porgies, sea bass and blacks on the Kismet Reef on worm and clam for porgies and sea bass and fiddlers for the blacks. A few 2-4 lb. weaks being caught behind the clam dredges on white bucktails and squid strips. Lots of small blowfish around, which should be returned unharmed to the water. Blues 2-4 lbs., in the inlet on umbrellas and diamond jigs. Blues from 3-10 lbs for chummers and trollers at Cholera. Big blues off the Patchogue beaches and Cherry

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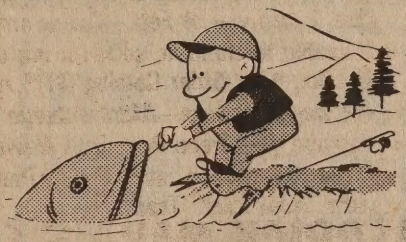

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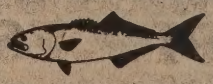

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NEW 35' FIBERGLASS CHARTER BOAT
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FLOUNDER 7AM SAT. & SUN.
Fast, Comfortable 65 Ft. Open Boat 431-2230
Ft. of Long Beach Bridge, Island Park, L.I.
★★★FREE PARKING★★★

A few nice blues caught on the charter boat "Captain Bob Fischer" by Tony Ambrosio and group from Walters-Donaldson, Inc., of Hicksville.

grove along with some albacore and bonito. Flounders starting in Bay Shore channel and behind the hospital. A few bass west of the inlet in the area of the outflow pipe, on Danny plugs and umbrellas. The outside reef is holding a load of big sea bass which are falling to worm and clam. Plenty of snappers still around and a lot bigger now.

CAPTREE

Capt. Geo. Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** reported that bluefishing has been very good both day and night with the exception of Wednesday, which was stinko for some reason. Both Sat. and Sun. were also good, but Sun. was best fishing for blues 8-15 lbs. over the ocean wrecks. A couple of nice sea bass and an occasional cod are also being taken there. George said the boat will be sailing for blues everyday at 7AM and at 7PM nights on Fridays, Saturdays and holidays.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** called to report the fluking is tapering off, but there are good catches of sea bass, blacks and porgies on the ocean reef. Day bluefishing is great and the night blues are even greater. Sometimes t they catch 2-5 lbers., and other trips 7-15 lbers. This is at Cholera or on the wrecks and depths of 80-100 ft. are working best. Blues are very consistend day and night. Daytime it's bait, jigs and bananas, but at nighttime it's strictly bait. Capt. Neil says that due to a cancellation, Sun., Oct. 15 is available for a charter date and this should be a time of super bluefishing.

Vincent Corrao of W. Babylon called with a report of a good catch on the **Capt. Scotty** on last Sun.'s charter. He took the pool with a 14 lb. bluefish. They were fishing in about 80' of water off Patchogue Beach jigging an Ava 27. All the passengers did well, getting at least eight fish apiece.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle tells us that they are selling loads of live eels to surf casters. Several stripers have been brought in, a 38 lber., 23 lbr. and a few others from the beach, but there are probably a lot of other fish making up the remainder of the iceberg. Bass are around and on the move, is the way Ski sees it. A lot of 3/4 lb. porgies in the bay, with the Sore Thumb area and off Good Sam being productive spots. Very few flounders around though Amity Cut is supposed to be producing a few. This would be worms, clam and mussel chum. Blues to 2 lbs. just outside the inlet. Ski has green crabs and fiddlers available for blackfish, which are making a good showin on the inshore reef. Still some fluke from the CG Station to the mouth of the inlet. Large snappers around. One customer brought in 11 fluke this past week on killies and squid.

Mario at **High Hook Fishing Station** reports his boats are bringing back decent catches of flounder. Charlie Kennedy had 18 flounder Sun., fishing behind Oak Is. Fish were from ½ to ¾ lbs. on worm and corn chum. Sal and Marie took a mixed bag of kings, blows, fluke, flounder, and eels on Sun. Mario will be glad to tell you where.

ATLANTIC BEACH

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BASS & BLUES
On Capt. Bob Brennan's Custom Bass Boat
A.M.
1-3 Pass. • All Elect. • All Tackle Aboard

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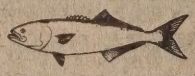
BLUES!
Blue Sea III
BIG 90' • ALL LATEST ELECT. • LADIES ACCOM.
HOT FOOD • HELPFUL CREW
★ 7 AM DAILY ★
—PIER 8—
CAPT. NICK CANNISI (212)TA-7-0791



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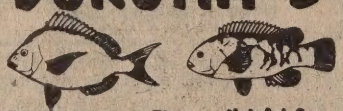
"Atomic Power gets you to the grounds faster – MORE FISHING TIME!"

DOROTHY B



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HELEN H
PIER 9 • **BLUES** • PIER 9
★ 6 AM EVERY DAY ★
★ 7 PM EVERY NIGHT ★
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"BABE"
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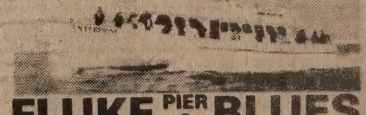

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7:30 AM Sat., Sun., Hol.
80' LONG • 23' BEAM • TRIPLE DIESEL 1000hp
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First Traffic Light at Jack's Bait & Tackle

SOUTH SHORE BAYS

★ BEST BET ★ BLACKFISH

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle tells us that John Schager of Copiague bagged a 16 lb. blackfish at the Rota Wreck on Sat. using green crab. A 14 lb. blue fell to Craig Asani of Dix Hills while fishing in the bay north of Fl inlet, bait and method yet unknown. Porgies, blowfish, flounder, fluke and sea bass, all at the hole in front of the lighthouse and in general all over the place in the bay on clam and worm. Blackfish on the Kismet Reef on fiddlers and green crabs. Jim Schaefer, son of John who owns Charlie's Bait and Tackle picked 64 blackfish off of the Rota wreck up to 5½ lbs. on fiddlers, fishing with Bob Frank. Both are from Lindenhurst. Bass sharpie Joey Giolonza had a few schoolies on eels, live snappers and live baby blackfish.

COPIAGUE

Bait and Tackle Unlimited reports weakfish off the lighthouse and the CG station up to 12 lbs. on live snapper. Blackfish at Kismet and all the bridges on fiddlers and clam. Catches have been fairly good. Blues 10-12 lbs in the inlet and up to 18 lbs. outside Jones inlet on bunker spoons with wire lines. Porgies by the dozens off Copiague Beach and Copiague Hole on sandworms. Flounders all over on sand worms and dyed clams up to 1½ lbs.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle tells of pretty good flounder fishing for this time of year up to a 1½ dz. per man, plus porgies and kingfish at West Is., the Copiague Hole and Zachs Bay on worm and clam bait. Blackfishing is very good at reefs, rocks and bridges on green crabs, with fish getting bigger everyday. Nice weakfishing at 3rd Wantagh on drifted snapper and bunker. Big blues from 10-12 lbs. at the inlet on whole or chunk bunker. Cholera still red hot for blues. Baldwin Bay and Captree Is., your best bet for blueclaw crabs.

SEAFORD

Bob at **Naomi Inn Fishing Station** tells us Jerry Miller and sons filled a 5-gal. pail with blackfish which they took under the 3rd Wantagh Sun. on greens and fiddlers. Frank and Mac on the Junkie II chummed a load of school blues at Cholera on Sun. Some small flounder being picked in local waters on worms and the fall flounder run is about to start.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports good catches of porgies and sea bass along with a few small blues in the local waters taking worm and clam. flounders showing up, small stuff, but getting bigger daily. Best areas have been Great Is. channel and Squaw Is. Some small blowfish are being picked, which should be returned to the water so that they can grow up and drop some eggs of their own.

BELLMORE

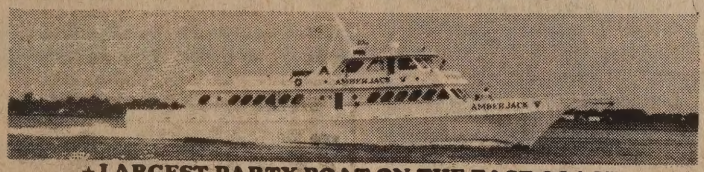
Bronco, the singing dog at **Merrick Marine Tackle Center** howled that bass and blues were being taken in the inlet on bucktails and diamond jigs from evening through the early morning hours for those willing to sacrifice some z time. Weaks at the 2nd Wantagh on sand worms or live snapper at night and early morning hours. The snappers are bigger now and are still around. A few flounder here and there. The deeper holes are your best bet with clam, worm and chum.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports flounder fishing now starting to pick up, though most are small, there are enough bigger fish to make it worthwhile. Worm and clam on a flounder rig are producing mixed bags of porgy, kingfish, sea bass, some blowfish. Best spots have been rowboat alley, Merrick Pt. and Broad Creek all day long. Snappers in the inlet. Tons of 2-6 lb. blues at Cholera with chummers doing better than trollers.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

★ NEW AMBERJACK V ★



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130 Ft. Steel & Aluminum Supercruiser • Extra-Big 27 Ft. Beam
BLUEFISH! 7A.M. DAILY ★ 6A.M. Sat., Sun. & Hol. ★ 7PM Every Nite
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SAFE DIESEL POWER • LIC. TO 36 PASS.
WHITE EAGLE II
SMALL & LG. CHARTERS • BAY or OCEAN
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GIANT BLUES!!!

★ DAILY 8 AM ★

BRING YOUR HEAVY TACKLE!!!
MONSTER TIME! *DON'T MISS OUT!!!*
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4 PM Charters Available!

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OPEN BOAT • DAILY 8 AM
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OPEN BOAT • EVERYONE WELCOME

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$6.50 SUN. & TUES. 9:15 AM – 1:15 PM
Porgies, Flounders, Blacks, Weaks
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FRI. 8 AM – 3 PM, *$10 Adults, $6 Sen. Cit.*

BLUES SAT. 5 AM – 12 NOON.....$12
SUN. & TUES. 5 AM – 9 AM.....$8

BLUES THURS. 8 AM – 3 PM.....$12
★ *HEATED CABIN* ★

Half-Fare on all 2nd runs, same day, if rm. avail.!
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WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★ BLUEFISH

FREEPORT

The Freeport Boatmen's Associa-
ion happily reports BLUES—BLUES
LUES at Cholera, averaging 20-30
sh per person, all in the 5-12 lb.
ange. Big bonito of 10-12 lbs.
berally mixed in plus a few albies,
lus good catches of sea bass on the
ottom. This was all week long,
ncluding weekend. Bob says fish are
ll over Cholera. Heavy chumming
equired. All boats came in early with
rm-weary anglers. Buoy 19 in
eynolds Channel produced good
orgy catches. Last Monday, the Nite
wl II had to wait out a strong moon
de over a favorite wreck and at 1
M, started bailing good catches of
od.

Charter boat **Shalidon** called to tell
s that he fished 15 miles NW of the
exas tower last Sat. for Jim Rainey
f Floral Park and they bagged a 30
. bluefin tuna and a 15 lb. albie on
lack cedar jigs. The following day for
be Moska and group, 75 blues and
onito were taken at Cholera on light
inning tackle.

The **Miss Freeport** reports flounder
shing good all week with Swift and
ong Creeks producing. Tony says he
now sailing daily, except for this
un. Clam and bloodworms and also
d-dyed clams working well.

Capt. Mike Miller of the charter
oat **Apus** called to say he had good
uefishing all week, catches ranging
om 40-90 fish per trip. Along with
e blues at Cholera were sea bass on
e bottom. On Sun. he fished 160°
it of Jones in 125 ft. of water and
ey had good sized blue sharks
eping them company all day. Satch
ahoney of Freeport bagged the only
ako of the day, a 44 lber.

Charter boat **Nite Owl** called to tell
that Sun.'s charter for Al Berko
d party saw 71 super blues from
-14 lbers taken in a secret offshore
tspot, fishing bait on the bottom.
e charter boat **The Rogue** called to
y Sat.'s charter got blues at Cholera
d in the afternoon, they came inside
d fished sea bass and porgies on
e of Capt. Dave's secret lumps.

Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin II**
ppily reported great bluefishing all
ek. Consistent and strong, even on
e weekend, were his words. Fish
n 2-8 lbs. Mon.'s trip saw 62 bonito
me aboard, also in the 5-6 lb. range.
is was for the Hicks Neck Fishing
ub. Sun. was the boat's best
uefishing day for Hasco Utilities.
ey had over 400 blues, hi hook 30
h.

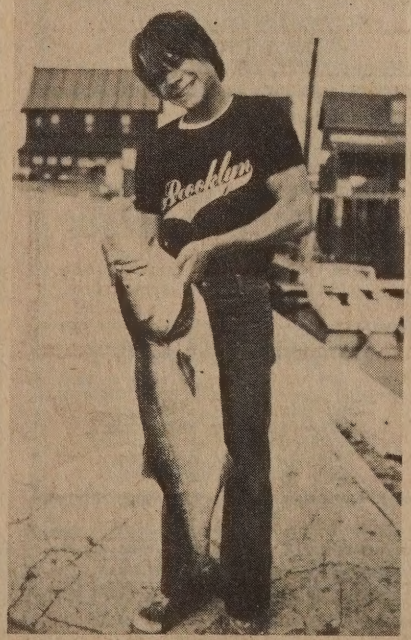
Capt. "Spider" Schmidt of the **Aloma II** reported lots of good seabass and blacks on Sun., sea bass running up to 3½ lbs. Sat., it was mainly sea bass and porgies. This is all offshore fishing. The boat will be Sat. and Sun.'s only until further notice. Watch ad.

The Capt. Lou II reports excellent catches of flounder though they are still a little on the small side, they are plentiful. They are averaging ½ lb, though a few running up to 2 lbs. Mixed in with them are porgies, sea bass, blowfish, kingfish and a few fluke. Hi hook for the week was 35 fish and Capt Mike is working the Reynolds channel area.

Capt. Wayne King on the **Capt. Joe** tells us Sat. night's charter for a group from NY Telephone had over 400 choppers fishing Cholera. Sun.'s charter for Frank Dcezinski, Jr., of Central Islip (age 9½) took the pool with a 10 lb. blue. Over 200 blues came over the rail on smelt and bunker.

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports super bluefishing at the Cholera Banks. On Saturday, the fish averaged 3-7 lbs. and catches averaged 15 to 30 fish per person. Sharpies were able to take 50-75 fish. On Sunday the fish ran up to 3 lbs., with an occasional 6-7 lb. fish and 5-8 lb. bonito. Over the weekend Sr. Citizen John McCarthy took 30 fish.

The Capt. Al has been doing an excellent job on the bluefish at Cholera with many fishermen taking 40 fish. Most fish are running in the 4 lb. class, with pool fish running up to 9 lbs. This fishing is being done with jigs and smelts and there have been bonito mixed in the catches. The night trips have also been very good with high hook taking 40-50 fish.



Victor Smith of Brooklyn took this 19 lb. 2 oz. bluefish on a live bunker fishing in Jamaica Bay. Subscriber Club photo.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports blackfish starting up at the Long Creek and Meadow Brook Bridge and at the jetty in the inlet. Sand porgies, sea bass and lafayettes at buoys 14 and 16 in Reynolds Channel and at the Meadow Brook Bridge. Snappers are still around and have grown to nice size. Bass up to 22 lbs. are being plugged off Lido Beach. Bluefishing was good over the weekend at Lido Beach where fish up to 14 lbs. hit feathers. Bay fishermen did well at Cholera with 7-8 lb. bluefish. Tuna and albacore are being taken on feathers south of the Cholera banks.

ISLAND PARK

Capt. John of the **Commodore** has called our attention to the fact that we neglected to remove the line "bait included" in last week's Commodore ad. We trust that our Production Dept. has done so this week.

Beckmann's Tackle reports small flounder taking worms at buoy 19 in Reynolds channel. Blackfish are in solid under the bridges and these fish are taking fiddlers. Snappers are plentiful in the area and are big in size. Some fluke are still to be had in the main channel and inlet. Surf fishermen have been taking nice size blues on and off along local beaches. Bass are being taken on chum or live eels under local bridges.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Henning's Fishing Station reports that there are still some nice sized fluke to be had in the inlet. Fiddlers and green crabs are doing a job on blackfish at the bridges and in the rocky areas. Porgies and flounder are hitting worms in the bay. Some big blues are moving in and out of the bay and are being taken on bunker chunks. Blues are taking bait and chum at the Cholera Banks and the Tin Can grounds. During last week, 8-10 lb. bass were being taken along the beach and at the jetty on Rebels, RedFins and Atom plugs.

JAMAICA BAY

T&G Bait & Tackle reports porgies up to 1½ lbs. being caught on sand worms on both north and south channel bridges. Weakfish being caught off the south channel bridge and the Marine Parkway bridge on sand worms. Blues being taken all over the bay on bunker chum and bunker chunks. Blacks being picked up on fiddlers off north and south channel bridges. Small flounders starting to show.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The Elsie K III after a good season of fluking, on Sat. will start for blues, bonito and albacore. Capt. Tom says it looks like a good season coming and he plans to be working 17 Fathoms.

★BAIT & TACKLE★

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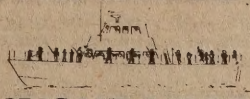
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Fish Talk:
DIPPY MAIL

(Continued from page 7.)

eel-like in appearance. However, their large mouths and perch-like head gives them away as being eel pouts. You probably caught an ocean pout, **Macrozoarces americanus**, which is found from North Jersey to the Arctic. At times, they may wander quite close to shore but may also be found in water as deep as 500 feet or more. They are usually taken by trawlers and in lobster pots, but are not against taking a baited hook. They are good eating and many fishermen readily take them home for the kitchen in spite of their slimy nature.

HOW DO I GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE 200 MILE LIMIT? A number of readers have written wanting to know how they can find out more on the 200-Mile Limit and the legislation that created it. We have covered a lot of this territory over the past few years in editorials, **Fish Talk** columns, and Al Ristori's **National Scene** column. However, you may obtain information firsthand by writing to: Mr. John Bryson, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Council, Federal Building, Dover, Delaware.

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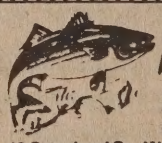

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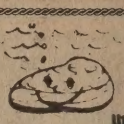

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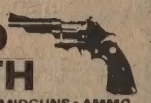

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CASTIN' & CATCHIN'

(Continued from page 15.)

will alert fish to the presence of something edible. The popping of the swimmer is particularly effective at calm daybreaks or for drawing fish up off the bottom on an offshore reef.

The Reverse Atom should be skidded across the top of the water, left still for a second or so, then skidded again. The skidding produces plenty of sound that draws fish. During recent trips with Charlie Soares, the Reverses really interested the blues, while most of the bass wanted a swimmer.

A Reverse is effective when the water is high and you can't get in close enough to a reef or patch of shore line to reach it with a swimmer. Snap a Reverse on and whip it right in the center of the suds. No sense losing a boat over bass fishing when you have a lure that casts like a bullet.

Locations: We've already talked about an offshore reef. One thing though, don't forget the place might not have any white water until the last couple of hours of the outgoing tide. Points of land with rocks on either side of the point are always good bets. Stretches of shore line with reefs just offshore are good bets at dusk and dawn. The fish might lie on the reef during the day, then move inshore early or late in the day.

One last piece of info: when you get a fish in the boat—especially a thrashing bluefish—watch for hooks in your hand. Flopping fish and plugs with big trebles are dangerous. This article was written to put you into fish—not the hospital. Take care.

The Dorothy B reports that on Saturday, the northeast winds and the big ground heave made fishing tough. But before the weekend, the boat experienced some terrific sea bass fishing off Seabright and Jersey wrecks. A few blackfish were also taken. On Sunday, the water settled and some nice blackfish were picked up off the Jersey coast and at local wrecks.

Blue Sea III reports excellent bluefishing over the past weekend. The Ambrose Tower produced bluefish from 3-8 lbs., and 17 Fathoms produced jumbo blues up to 19½ lbs. This fishing is being done with bait and on Sunday, the pool was taken by a 19½ lb. bluefish. The boat will be sailing 7AM everyday for these choppers.

The Zephyr reports that on Sunday he had a nice shot at big porgies. Catches ran from 1/2 to one full pail per person, with fish ranging from hand size to 2½ lbs. This is the finest kind of porgy fishing and a few nice blackfish are being taken to top off catches. This action is being had off the Tin Can Grounds. Starting next week, the boat will start sailing for blackfish off the New Jersey Coast.

LIF reader Guy DiBlasio called to tell us that last Wednesday, he and his brother Bill went out on the Betty W and had 41 bluefish up to 19 lbs., 6 bonito and 2 albacore. They took the bonito and albacore, using spearing for bait on a tuna hook on 15 lb. test line. Guy also told us that his friends Tony Labarca, George Fay and Charlie Messina on the boat "Big Skimmer" boated 86 blues to 22 lbs. 6 oz. and three albacore to 22 lbs. on light tackle diamond jigging 100 yards southwest of Ambrose Tower on Saturday. They were chumming with spearing and sand eels and also used bunker for bait. Guy said that everyone was in for a shock Thurs. evening when a big school of weakfish and bluefish chased a school of bunker into Sheepshead Bay. Quite a few private boats loaded up jigging. School bass ranging from 3-8 lbs are being taken on clam bellies on the Brooklyn side of the Verrazano Bridge during outgoing tide. A few bass are also being taken trolling off Hoffman's Island and live lining bunker around the first light off the tip of the Rockway jetty.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports good bluefish action at Ft. Wadsworth, South Beach and the Berger Avenue storm sewer. These fish are running 8-12 lbs. and are hitting bunker and swimming plugs. This is early morning and evening action. The above area is also giving up its share of nice sized fluke, weakfish and snapper blues. Great Kills Harbor is producing porgies and snappers and at night bunker are being live-lined for 8-10 lb. weakfish and 12-15 lb. bluefish. Boaters are putting Lupo baby bunker spoons down deep at Norton's Point for nice catches of 12-18 lb. chopper blues. Princess Bay is giving up 3-5 lb. blues on red, green and white Lancers. Buoys 46 and 44 in the Bay are producing weakfish from 6-8 on sand worms. Some striper action is being had on worms at Hoffman and Swinburne Islands. This action is on the outgoing tide with most of the fish being throwbacks, but some fish running up to 5-6 lbs.

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BLACKFISH

GREENPORT

Capt. Geo. Porter of the **Brand X** reports continuing and constant red hot bluefishing of big alligators from 8-18 lbs. Lots of 12-16 lbers. There are frequent break-offs of these big choppers and many more fish are lost. The boat is using heavy-duty chain rigs with bunker baits. About 20 double headers were hauled in over the weekend when the blues smashed the bait in two and now there are two baits on two hooks. The fish are there in abundance and they are savage. Many anglers quitting early from arm weariness. The boat is fishing the Race, Gull Is., and Pigeon Rip, along with other hot areas.

A. P. White Bait Shop reports blackfish in the 4-6 lb. range taking fiddlers and green crabs at Gull Island, Plum Island and along the south shore. Bluefishing has been good at the Race and off of Gardiner's Island. These fish are being taken on bunker or diamond jigs. Porgy fishing has been good off Plum Island and along the south shore from Greenport to Orient. Bass fishermen are doing fair to good on 30-40 lb. fish off Gull and Plum Islands and in the Gut. These fish are taking bucktails and eels.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt's Orient Point Station is now featuring flounders, blacks and porgies. Customers should note that the Sr. Citizens' specials are valid at the Southold Station only. This information came in too late for us to get into our regular weekly ad changes.

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports that blackfish in the 3-4 lb. range, porgies and flounder are being taken along the Sound shore. On Saturday, an 8 lb. blue and a 5 lb. fluke were picked up right in front of the station. Bay fishermen are taking porgies and flounder and blackfish are starting to show.

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SKIFFS & OUTBOARD RENTALS
Senior Citizens Day—Wed.—½ Price
BAIT • REFRESHMENTS • GAS
Brand New! Special afternoon rates! Noon til closing. Call for further info!
Bayside Drive
Point Lookout, N.Y.
Ed Wardel
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ORIENT STATION OPEN WED. THRU SUNDAY
FLUKE • BLACKS • PORGIES
BOATS • MOTORS
BAIT • TACKLE
Double Concrete Launching Ramps
PORT OF EGYPT
Senior Citizens Days Tues. & Thurs.
(½ price on Boat & Mtr.)
Peconic Bay
Look for the Red Circle Sign on Route 25, One Mile East of SOUTHOLD
Reservations taken 6 AM to 6 PM
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16 FT. SKIFFS & MOTORS
Bait-Tackle-Gas Dock-Chum
"WE TELL YOU WHERE TO GET 'EM"
WED. & THURS.. SR. CITIZENS DAY—SNACK BAR
BOSTON WHALER • JOHNSON MOTORS • SEA BREEZE • VENTURA SAILBOATS
REYNOLDS CHANNEL, PT. LOOKOUT • Andy Chisolm • 516-432-4665

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★FLOUNDERS★
BOATS • MOTORS • RAMP
Sen. Cit. Discounts Mon./Fri.
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Ft. of Bay Ave., EAST MORICHES

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FISHING STATION
Double Concrete Launch Ramp
16' SKIFFS
BAIT & TACKLE
10 H.P. MOTORS
CLUB DISC.
15 H.P. Motors Also Avail.
Senior Citizen Discount Any Weekday
"FISH SHINNECOCK BAY FOR FLOUNDER & FLUKE, PECONIC BAY FOR WEAKFISH"
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ANTHONY'S FISHING STATION
Boats-Motors-Bait-Tackle
Nautical Gifts
FLOUNDER
Snack Bar
—EVERY TUES. SEN. CITIZEN DAY—
Boat & Motor Half-Price!
337 S. Main St. FREEPORT
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★ *Free Coffee At All Times* ★
★ boat & Motor Rentals—by Resv. Only
★ 1st Gas & Bait Station East of 1st Wantagh Bridge
★ Only Live Bait Sta. in Seaford Harbor
★ Tackle • Food • Drinks • Ice • Froz. Bait • Chum
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16' Skiffs • Outboard Motors
Fresh & Frozen Bait
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FLUKE
West Sayville
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Boats
Motors
Bait
Tackle
Off Atlantic Ave. • Senior Cit. Discount Mon.-Fri.

SKIDMORE'S
"The Fisherman's Fishing Station!"
FISHING STATION
Boat & Motor Rentals
BAIT & TACKLE • SNACK BAR
(516) 878-0572
EAST MORICHES, N.Y.
(*Maple Ave. Off Atlantic Ave.*)
Senior Citizen Rates Mon.-Fri.

BAIT BOATS RALPH'S FISHING STATION
BOAT & OUTBOARD RENTAL
GAS • OIL • BAIT • TACKLE
MT. SINAI HARBOR
End of Harbor Beach Rd. ★ HR-3-9785

TADSEN'S FISHING STATION
BOAT & MOTOR RENTALS
—HOTTEST SPOT IN THE BAY—
Marina • Ramp • Tackle • Snack Bar
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(Off Bay Ave.)
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16' & 18' ALUM. BOATS & OUTBOARD MOTORS
NEW SUFFOLK
1st Ave. & King St.
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BAIT • TACKLE • ICE • BEER
WEAKS & PORGIES

Great White SHARK BELT BUCKLE
HEAVY CAST METAL BUCKLE IN A BEAUTIFUL BRASS FINISH!
ONLY $5.50 *plus* .50 pst. & hlg.:
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20% Off Sr. Cit. Boat & Motor Rental, Mon.-Fri.
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(just past E. Moriches)
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★ 20' PRO-LINE AVAIL. ★
16' Fiberglass *JOHN DORY* Skiffs and Motors.....$20.00
Sr. Citizen's Spec. — Boat & Engine $10 Tuesday
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16' Skiffs • Motors • Bait • Tackle • Gas • Ice
SLIPS BY THE SEASON • CLOSED TUESDAYS
"GARDINER'S BAY FISHING"
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NOYAC MARINA, INC.
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WEAKS • BLUES
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FRESH & FROZEN
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Specializing in
SEKORA RIGS
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CHARTERS ARRANGED
105 W. Broadway *(Across from Ferry)* Pt. Jeff
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NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports good weakfish, kingfish and porgy action at Rose's Grove, Nassau Point and east of buoy 22. On Sat., Bill William and partner from Brooklyn fished off Rose's Grove with worms and squid and took 30 weakfish up to 4½ lbs. and 100 porgies up to 2 lbs. Flounder are starting to show in the above areas and are running up to one pound.

NOYAC

Helen of **Noyac Marina** called to say that the fall flounder fishing has begun, with Noyac Creek as one known spot where fish are starting to be brought back from. She asked us to remind you that as of Oct. 1, the marina will be closed on Wednesdays.

PECONICS

Speck's Bait and Tackle reports the flounder catches are starting to improve at Towd Point, Mill Creek and Noyac Bay on sand worms. Snappers are still around but are schooling up. Still a few fluke off Gardiner's, largest on strip baits. Weaks at Jessup's and Rose's Grove on squid and sand worms. Blues up to 11 lbs., from the beach at Shinnecock Inlet. Most fish are smaller, however, and are hitting a wide assortment of lures.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reports that porgies up to 2 lbs. are taking worms and clams in both bay and sound. Blackfish are starting to show and are being taken on green crabs and fiddlers. On Sunday, Cookie fished off the pipeline with fiddler crabs and took a 10½ lb. blackfish. Weakfish from 1-3 lbs. are hitting sand worms in the bay. Loads of snappers still to be had and bluefish are holding up in the sound.

FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED

To place an ad in *The Long Island Fisherman's* classified ad section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read, along with your check or money order for the full amount. *(Sorry, no billing.)* Rates for non-subscribers are 25-cents per word, 30-word ($7.50) minimum. Subscribers of *The Fisherman* receive a discount if they include the number off their subscription label. Classified rates for subscribers are: 20 cents per word, 30 word ($6.00) minimum. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times, 15%. To run a photograph with an ad, add$13.95 to the words.

BOATS & MOTORS

1978 EVINRUDES
2-$228; 4-$319; 6-$457; 9.9-$580; 15-$670; 25-$780; 35-$880; 55-$1320; 70-$1498; 85-$1736; 115-$1836; 140-$1950; 150-$2600; 175-$2688; 200-$2800; 235-$2940. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY. Scott & McCulloch Parts. FOB. Call: 516-599-3003.

"UP OARS*" trailered charter boat. We go where the fish are. From Fire Island to Montauk Pt.; inshore and offshore. 4-passenger limit. Reasonable rates. Capt. Rick Torre. 516-567-6995.

34' CHRISOVITSCH
Twin 350 FWC Chris Craft engines. New Sitex; VHF; CB. Dual controls; 2 fishing chairs. Bimini top. Much, much more. $10,500. 516-549-5533.

1972 24' PRO-LINE Center Console. Twin 1976 Evinrude 70s. Lo Hrs. All new canvas, DR, radio. Yard Maint. Eve: 516-829-6544; Weekend: 516-668-5378. Asking—$5000. In water at Montauk.

SEACRAFT SF-23, Mercruiser, I/O 110 gal., head console; tracking Loran; Ross Recorder; VHF, CB; flow meter, Sea Temp., padding. Bimini. Murray chair in bow. Circulating well. $10,000. 516-286-9660.

1978 JOHNSON OUTBOARDS
You won't believe our low, low prices. 2-235 h.p. OUTBOARD MARINE SERVICE, INC., 24 Cottage Avenue, Bay Shore. 516-665-3885.

1976 Mako 200 h.p. Evin. W/15 h.p. Kicker. White line recorder, CB; outriggers, 2 batteries and loaded with extras. 1977 Shoreline Trailer w/power winch. Keep indoors. Like new. $9500. 516-643-7612. 516-691-8061.

MAKO 23' with 1978 Evinrudes 235 h.p. & 15 h.p. VHF, CB, flasher/recorder; bait tank; head; dual batteries; compass; spray hood. Bimini top. Console cover; tach; Speedom. $8500. Eves: 516-798-7802.

31' 1972 JERSEY FIBERGLAS SPORTFISHERMAN. Twin 225 h.p. FWC (Reblocked 1976. Low hours.) Loran, 2 fish finders, 3 radios. Auto. pilot, gin pole, Lee outriggers, flybridge enclosure. Pompanette fishbox; gallery. All in mint condition. Plus much more. MUST SELL. 516-IV 1-2841.

MUST SELL
1975 25' Chris Craft Tournament Fisherman Twin 130 h.p. Inboard, DF; head. Sleeps 2. 30 hours since new. Call Fred: 516-653-6777.

1976 Renken, Center Console. 70 h.p. Evinrude with galvanized power winch. Canvas; new VHF radio. Extras. Trade or cash for 20 to 21 ft. late model Fiberglas boat. $4200. 516-666-7722.

GULFSTREAM 1978 GRADY WHITE 20' 5" 200 h.p. OMC, FWC, White Line recorder. VHF, FM, Canvas. Loaded. 27 hours old. List over $14,000. Best offer over $8500. Call any time: 516-728-0922.

BOTVED—Coronet 24' 1969 Fiberglas Deep V with twin 120 h.p. I/O Volvos rebuilt in 1977. If you're looking for a good boat, this is it. Priced at $5000 it is an excellent buy. For further details, call—201-274-5039 Days, or 201-891-3387 Evenings. Boat at Montauk.

SPORTFISH SPECIALS
17' BOSTON WHALER "Montauk" 70 h.p. & galvanized trailer. Loaded with extras, like new. Warranty. 19' Grady White "Sportsman" 85 h.p. galvanized trailer. Many extras. Mint condition. 20' Cruise Craft, Center Console, 115 h.p. galvanized trailer. Excellent condition. Extras. 1978 19' Mako Hull. Fiberglas seats; windshield, handrail, 4 rod holders, console cover. New warranty. WHITE WATER MARINE, 516-589-2502.

FIBERFORM 1975 Under 200 hrs. 24'x8' cuddy cabin. 188 Mercruiser. Mint condition. VHF, 40 channel CB; depth sounder; Porta-Potty. Many extras. Sleeps 5. Great family fishing boat. Loaded with extras. Must sell due to illness. Boat in Water. Asking—$8500. 516-928-7284.

1974 JOHN DORY 16' Fiberglas 1970 20 h.p. Mercury. Excellent cond. Extras. In water; will demonstrate. $600. 516-785-5106.

DUSKY 26' '76 - Twin 250 h.p. FWC, Tower. Too many options to list. A creampuff of a boat for serious fishermen. Price cut $10,000. Asking—$25,000. Further information, call Don at Bay Shore Marine Basin. 516-665-3636.

23' PENN YAN, S.F. 225 Chrysler Inboard. Lo hrs.; flybridge, dual controls; head. Fully bulkheaded cabin; DF; VHF; outriggers; dual batteries; auto. bilge. Bimini top. Many extras. In excellent condition. $6500. Day: 212-638-4701, or night: 212-444-8282.

BERTRAM 1975 26' Flybridge. Twin 165 h.p. I/O. Sleeps 4. 110v refrigerator; full canvas. White Line depth recorder. Immaculate condition. Many extras. $21,500 FIRM. Call evenings after 6PM. 914-793-3083. Boat in New Rochelle.

FOR SALE
50'x17 Charter-Head Boat. Licensed 44 pass. New certificates 1978. Built Deltaville Va. 1969. Extra heavy const. 1 - 671 n; 1 - 15 kw onan gen. Radar, Loran, 2 bottom mach. CB, VHF, auto. pilot. Must be seen. Many extras. For info, call evenings 516-668-5751.

Danforth Boat Anchors, 13 lb. Danforth $18; 8 lb. Danforth $12; 4 lb. Danforth $7.00. Also have Benson and sea spike anchors, like new. 516-775-3811.

SAILBOAT
26' Sharpie Sloop. Classic design; excellent condition. Fully equipped. 3 sails. Ideal South Bay boat. $4200. 516-981-7245.

WELLCRAFT 1977½ 255 Suncruiser 250 Mercruiser. 50 hrs. Sleeps 4. Stand up head, shower; pressure water; AC/DC refrigerator. Dockside power. All new electronics. Trim Tabs. dual batteries. Swim platform. Full canvas and camper back. Many extras. Must sell. Asking—$15,200. 516-587-9863.

19' Grady White 74, merc. 115 h.p. 74, 75 power head, compass. New seats; canvas, tandem wheel trailer. Many extras. In water. Will demo. Excellent condition. $3200. 516-884-0040.

1975 WELLCRAFT NOVA 25' twin 233 h.p. V8's. New tops and upholstery. 125 hours. Like new. WHITE WATER MARINE, 516-589-2502.

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Rebuilt starters, alternators, generators. Pick up and delivery available. Mobile service to your boat. 210 h.p. Chrysler freshwater cooled. MAKE OFFER. LAWRENCE B. FELS, Marine engine specialist. 24 hr. phone: 516-766-4345.

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Generator Kohler 4 KW. Excellent, will demonstrate-$990. Stainless steel Morse steering wheel - $50. 2 Mercruiser tachs-$20 each. Custom aluminum frame for winter cover, fit boats 30-35 ft. $150. 516-668-9455 or 929-4881.

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WINTER COVERS: Waterproof - $.13-$.25 sq. ft. Knee boots - $7.95, Sale: boat ladders, hardware. Line. REDER'S, 48 West Merrick Rd., Freeport. (across from Freeport Marine). 516-868-1110.

TUNA TOWERS, HALF TOWERS & RADAR ARCHES—Custom made to your specifications. Aluminum construction, welded joints. Delivered and fitted to your boat. Controls optional. Free Estimate: Call: Bob Christian. Daytime or Evenings—516-862-6179.

TRANSPORTING YOUR BOAT? Call Bill & Bill Boat Transport, Ltd., insured carriers at 516-277-3440. Boats 15' to 32', to and from your local ramps and marinas. "The safety of your boat is our main concern!".

BOAT INSURANCE—ALL RISK—12 Month Navigation. Low, low rates. Budget payments. Machinery damage included. Fishing Boat Liability. ARTHUR A. ISAKSON, 196 No. Central Ave., Valley Stream, NY. Call: 516-VA 5-4338 Day or Night.

Rockaway Chrome (Canyon) Fighting chair with teak footrest and cushions. Mint condition! $600. 516-935-1177.

1976 Cox Trailer. 2600 lb. capacity. Up to 20' boat 15 in. wheels. 2-speed winch. Excellent condition. $500. 914-963-6390. Days.

REAL ESTATE

VACATIONING OR YEAR-ROUND LAND FOR SALE: Fishing, hunting, nature lovers' paradise. Be the proud owner of (3-4-5) surveyed acre parcels, wooded; new roads, electric; cut out of large private estate. SOUTHERN CATSKILL MOUNTAINS, two hours from L.I. SPECIAL PRICE OF $3500 PER ACRE. Small amount down, terms up to (15) years. For additional information, call DEER RUN ESTATES, 516-666-6171.

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BUSINESS FOR SALE
Fishing Station and boat yard operation. Low $20s. South Shore. Call: 516-363-6024 after 6:30 p.m. Lease available on property.

PRIME HUNTING PROPERTY...100 MILES NYC. 15 acres excellent deer/wild turkey habitat. All wooded with stands of oak, maple, white pine. Outskirts of beautiful Narrowsburg, NY, Sullivan County; easy access to fine fishing on Delaware River. Minutes away from 13,000 acres of Cooperative hunting land. Nearby Pennsylvania also offers fine hunting, fishing, skiing. $15,000. Days—516-484-4490. Eves—516-669-7593.

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FISHERMEN
CAST YOUR OWN SINKERS, squid and net leads. Brass wire eyes, swivels and hooks available. Send $1 for catalog. Refunded with first order. SWEET'S MOLDS, Box 127, Springville, N.Y. 14141.

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS. Flounders are committing suicide on this widely used 3-hook rig, especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design-construction keeps tangling of hook at a minimum. Handmade. Finest materials. Three completely tied rigs for $3.50. Send check or money order to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

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BEACH BUGGIES

PRICED TO SELL
CHEVY SPORTVAN 30 1973. One ton with air conditioner; new snow tires; heavy duty trailer hitch. $2500. Call after 6PM. 516-725-0902.

Tires 5 "Dunegrabber" 11-15LT Beach tires, mounted and balanced with tubes on Black Blazer Rims. 516-798-5883. $325.

MISCELLANEOUS

CAMPER—MOBILE TRAILER. All aluminum, weighs only 1800 lbs., over cab. Sleeps six; refrigerator, stove W/oven; 2 basin sink, hot water heater, thermostat control heat. Full rest room facilities, including shower & extras. $3000. Call Days: 516-725-4200. Evenings: 516-728-3580.

BOATS TRANSPORTED—G. MAYER & SONS, since 1965. Local and Long Distance launching and hauling at various locations. Insured carriers. Cradles transported. "Tender loving care by George." 5% off with this Ad. 516-588-1500.

"JAWS" SHARK BELT BUCKLE in rich, glowing brass finish. Heavy metal buckle, oval, depicts great white shark with jaws wide open. Frightening teeth. If you fish and wear pants, this is for you. Send $5.50 plus $.50 postage to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY. 11566. Not a dull, flat buckle. This buckle is in high, realistic bas-relief. Looks like it will bite you!

SHARK JEWELRY & JAWS
Guaranteed to be authentic—NOT plastic. Assortment of different type teeth, 1" through 2". Gold-wrapped or 14k gold custom settings. CAPT. FRANK MACCARO of the FREE SPIRIT. 516-668-9455 or 929-4881.

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Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie Compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

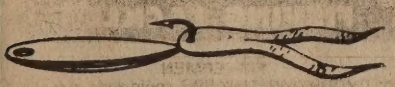
TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on L.I. Sales, installations, service. TOM CASH WELDING* Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

FIRST MATE WANTED—Experienced. Open party fishing boat operating from City Island, Bronx, N.Y. Call between 7PM - 9PM. 914-237-5351.

Genuine Harpoon Dart Belt Buckle. Solid Bronze. Same dart that tips the harpoons of all of L.I.'s shark charter boats. A rugged, good looking buckle. Will last a lifetime. Send $9.95 plus $.50 post. & handl., to; P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.

OBTAIN YOUR U.S. COAST GUARD LICENSE TO CARRY PASSENGERS FOR HIRE. Personalized instructions. Continuous classes. For information, call Capt. Dan Masterson of Lindenhurst, 516-226-5664.

ATLANTIC CHARTERING SERVICES: Chartered boat for pleasure or fishing, 25' inboard up to four passengers, out of Freeport, L.I. Capt. Paul, 212-382-5019.



NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

★ BEST BET ★ BLACKFISH

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports that on Saturday, bluefish to 12 lbs. were taken in good quantity at the Middle Grounds and from buoy 9 to Stratford Light. These fish are taking green tubes and bonito are mixed in. Blackfish are getting bigger and are being taken off Shoreham on fiddlers, green crabs and worms. Porgies up to 1¼ lbs. are taking worms and clams off Oldfield Point. Surf fishermen are taking blues from 6-8 and bass from 5-8 at the Shoreham Power Plant. This is early morning or evening

Dennis Kelly of Sag Harbor and pal Jake Early took these eight stripers to 39 lbs. at Plum Gut on live eels and bucktails. Subscriber Club photo.

CAPTAIN/BOATMAN LICENSE PREPARATION

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Prepare for U.S. Coast Guard License to carry passengers for hire. Instruction in required subjects: Rules of the Road Inland/International, Seamanship, Weather Chart Symbols, Time, Speed and Distance, Buoy System, Compass Nav., Life Saving Equip., Fire Fighting, Legal Requirements, Dockside field trip on Dowling's research vessel. *Instructor:* Capt. Irving Levine, author of "Modern Mariner's Manual" and "Sharks On Sight!"

9 Sessions: $115 *(Manual included)*

ELECTRONIC MARINE NAVIGATION

Mons. 7-9 PM, Nov. 6-Jan. 22

Basic course in use of ship's electronic equip. Theory and use of depth recorders, directional finders, VHF radio tel., Loran "A", Loran "C", and navigational radar. Info. also for 3rd class F.C.C. radio tel. license. *Instr:* Capt. Gary Dow

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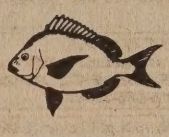

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★ (516) 422-1130 ★

Shark Tooth Jewelry

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Frank Flash, Mike Ajello and John Diehs took this summer visitor, a 45 lb. cobia, while bluefishing at Norton's Point. Subscriber club photo.

fishing with whole or chunk bunker. The jetty at Haggerman's Landing is also producing early morning and evening fishing for blues and bass on bunker.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that porgies can be taken up to 2½ lbs. straight off the harbor on worms and clams. Blackfishing is improving along the Sound Beaches and these fish can be taken on fiddlers and green crabs. Bluefish up to 8 lbs. are hitting jigs, tubes and umbrellas inside buoy 11. Nice sized bonito are mixed in with these catches.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reports porgies still plentiful in the area and they are hitting worms. Blackfish from 2-6 lbs. are hitting fiddlers and green crabs at Crane's Neck and Oldfield Point. Bluefish averaging 4

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don of the **Ever Ready** called to say that several hundred blues were caught over the weekend with many individuals going home with close to 30 blues per person. It's been fantastic and appears to be getting better with the Ava-27s. Note the Ever Ready is sailing weekends only now, with a Saturday blue run 5AM to 12 Noon, and Sunday 5AM to 9AM, with a bottom run following this Sun. morning 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Bottom runs are doing good with the blackfish appearing in great strength. The largest one this weekend was 8 lbs.

Ronnie's Fishing Station reports mixed blue and bass action at Eaton's Neck on white feathered bucktails and pork rind. On Sunday, Andy Knoph and Ray and Joe Nigro took bass and blues to 11 lbs., using the above method. Blackfish are hitting fiddlers and clams at Morris Rock and Eaton's Neck. Small flounder are starting to show in Huntington Harbor, Lloyd Harbor and Huntington Bay. Porgies are hitting sand worms at Eaton's Neck and Marshall Field.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reports good bluefishing at the Obstruction Buoy and black buoy 13, using jigs and Hopkins. Bluefish of 10 lbs. and better are being taken on bunker from the surf at the Eaton's Neck light and at the local power plant. These fish occasionally move into the harbor. Bass are being taken in the Rips off Eaton's Neck on green and white bucktails. This is an early morning and evening affair. Blackfish are starting to show in rocky areas and can be taken on fiddlers or green crabs. The fish at buoy 11B are bigger and are being taken on green crabs. Flounder and porgies are taking worms at Duck Island and Sand City. Snappers are of nice size and are plentiful at town docks and further out.

lbs. are being taken jigging deep off White Beach. Every once in awhile a bigger school moves in and out of the area. Snappers are still plentiful and can be found everywhere. Bass running up to 12 lbs. are hitting worms and bucktails off Crane's Neck.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** says that excellent fall fishing prevails in this section of the north shore. Porgies are still strong and blackfish are beginning to show. Mixed size blues are at the mouth of the river and an occasional school of green bonito pop up. Bass are available for sharpies only and there are flounders, mackerel and small snappers in the river. Ed Olson and Gregory Gallo caught 175 porgies, and one blackfish on worms and also three big blues on diamond jigs at 11B. Mort Mescall caught 3-6 lb. blues and he totaled 14 on Friday, 11 Saturday and 10 on Sunday. Charlie Matson fished the river and caught 12 flounder up to 2¼ lbs.

NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★

BAYVILLE

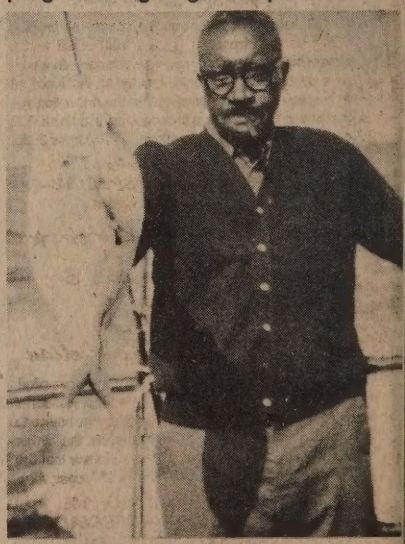
Norm's Tackle reports that flounder fishing is improving in the area with fish up to 1 lb. taking worms at Lloyd Neck and Oak Point. Blackfish up to 4½ lbs. are taking fiddlers off the Center Island reef. Bluefishing in the area is holding up and so is the porgy fishing, with buoy 2 in the harbor being a good spot.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reports good porgy fishing in the area. Paul Gramgreco of Bayside fished Matinecock Point and took a 13 lb. blackfish on green crabs. Lots of 7 and 8 lbers are coming out of this area. Snapper blues are being trolled off the docks with sidewinders. Butterfish are being taken off the dock behind the new school.

BRONX

Capt. Howie Berlin of the **Claire II** sailing out of the World's Fair Marina reports they are getting blacks and porgies everyday and the porgies are large and increasing in numbers daily. His other boat, the **Super Claire** sailing out of the Bronx has been getting great bluefish action on Fri. and Sat. night trips. The day trips for porgies and blacks are very productive on clam and worm with the porgies being large humpbacks.



Kenny Baptiste with one of his many humpback porgies caught aboard the City Island party boat "Ebb Tide."

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